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THE TIMES

No. 64,894 SATURDAY MARCH 5 1994

UK soldiers under fire again

Britain bows to general's troops plea

BY ANTHONY LOYD IN VITEZ AND JILL SHERMAN

■ Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose says that he has the moral support of the British Government in his request for at least 5,000 more UN troops

BRITISH defence officials were yesterday drawing up plans to send more troops to Bosnia-Herzegovina as the UN commander in the former Yugoslav republic renewed his warning that without urgent reinforcements the peace process was in danger of falling apart.

Douglas Hurd made clear last night that the Government was preparing to bow to Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose's request for extra soldiers, although the official position remained that Britain would not move until other countries also agreed to help.

The Foreign Secretary paid tribute to General Rose's "brilliant leadership" and said the UN had asked Britain to "reinforce the beginning of success" in securing an end to the bloodbath in Bosnia. This partly meant building up the humanitarian effort and partly sending troops to help to carry out the agreements the UN had negotiated.

"This appeal is not to us alone," Mr Hurd emphasised in a speech in Edinburgh. "We, with the French, the Dutch, the Spanish and the Canadians, are doing the lion's share already. But the need is clear, as is the strain on British troops already there." Downing Street said last night that it had still not had formal confirmation of the UN's request for another ten thousand troops, but negotiations were going on "apace" through Kofi Annan, the UN's head of peacekeeping, in New York and details of the requests, including the type of skills required, were becoming clearer.

General Rose emphasised his need during a visit to the British base in Vitez yesterday, saying: "We are in a very, very fragile and sensitive time. The longer it goes on, having to fill gaps by taking troops from elsewhere, inevitably the thing will start to crumble.

"We don't have troops in sufficient strength. There are increasing difficulties in terms of ceasefire violations. We are unable to react in sufficient numbers if there are breakdowns. I've got the moral support of the British Government; I'd like to see troops from anywhere. I've asked for a minimum of 5,000 for the job I specifically need to do."

As he spoke, British troops in central Bosnia came under fire for the second successive day, although nobody was hurt. Three mortars crashed into a British base between Zepce and Zavidovici at about 5.25 am after a similar attack on Thursday when a bomb landed near the main building.

The British battalion has found itself in a particularly tenuous predicament since the UN presence in Sarajevo has been bolstered at the expense of units in central Bosnia. As well as having to provide the continuing security for aid convoys coming into the republic along a 150 km stretch of dangerous mountainous road, British troops have become responsible for mapping existing frontlines, manning checkpoints, interposing factions and locating sites for heavy weapons collections as part of the ceasefire deal.



Hurd: "the need is clear"

The Coldstream Guards commander Colonel Peter Williams said yesterday: "We are already stretched. Things will get much more difficult in the days ahead." Today, his command becomes further extended as a squadron of Light Dragoons are moved to Zepce, where they will set up a new forward point to facilitate aid to Maglaj, which is still isolated and in the grip of a Serb offensive.

So far, the ceasefire seems to hold in central Bosnia only because of the discipline of the Croat and Muslim fighters. The Croatian HVO, hard pressed by recent fighting, need the breathing space the ceasefire affords, while the Muslims are tentatively courting any possible UN or Nato action on their behalf. If the perception of either side changes, the fighting could soon flare again.

"After 22 months of extremely vicious fighting, we shouldn't be surprised that there are people who are prepared to go back into the war," General Rose said. "You only have to have one group opening fire and everybody starts."

As General Rose reiterated his need for more troops, Paddy Ashdown wrote to the Prime Minister demanding an urgent response to the UN requests. "I find it impossible to understand why a British government will not respond more positively to a request from a British general doing such a difficult job at the behest of Britain, Nato and the UN," the Liberal Democrat leader wrote.

"You make the case that Britain has made a substantial contribution already. This is true, although our contribution still stands at half that that the French have been prepared to make. However, that should not be an excuse for Britain to join others in failing to respond to this urgent request."

Mr Ashdown added that the Prime Minister's attitude could only lead the Serbs to believe that Britain did not support its commanders on the ground "and we do not have the will to maintain the peace that we have at last established at such great cost".

David Clark, shadow Defence Secretary, also called on Mr Major to respond. "We have a British general who wants more troops. We should be sending them," he said. "I want to stop the slaughter. The peace will only hold if we get extra troops out there. It is about time the Prime Minister stopped messing around and sent them out."

Britain has spent £81 million on its contribution to the UN operations in Bosnia this year, as well as nearly £40 million in contributions to the UN protection force.

Defiant Serbs, page 14
Simon Jenkins, page 18



Mahathir Mohamed, Malaysia's Prime Minister, who attacked Britain's press. Page 2

Malaysia pays double the going rate for British radar

BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT AND M. M. G. PILLAI

THE Malaysian government is paying up to twice the normal price for British defence equipment under the arms deal that has been linked with the Pergau dam project, according to a GEC contract seen by *The Times*.

GEC subsidiaries sell their defence packages to a linked service company in Kuala Lumpur, which then fixes the final price with the Malaysian authorities. In one case a package sold to the service company for less than £100 million cost Malaysia nearly £200 million.

Now a Labour MP has tabled a Commons early-day motion questioning the two-tier pricing system and the mark-ups enjoyed by the service company, GEC Marconi Projects (M), known as GMPM.

Alan Williams, a Public Accounts Committee member, also questions whether the Treasury may have lost revenue as a result.

GMPM has handled all the paperwork for three GEC defence contracts covering frigates, missiles, command, control and radar systems. Yarrow Shipbuilders, Easams and GEC-Marconi have all signed contracts with GMPM.

The Yarrow contract is for two frigates equipped with a mass of high-technology equipment including vertical launch Sea Wolf missiles; Easams has supplied a command, control, communications and intelligence system, and GEC-Marconi is supplying two Martello air defence radar systems.

Mr Williams's motion refers to one contract for a radar and communications package, sold to GMPM for less than £100 million, which cost Malaysia nearly £200 million. The package included two Martello systems similar to a pair sold to Thailand recently for about £20 million. While there is more to the Malaysian package than the radar, defence industry sources said they were extremely surprised by the total cost.

The Thai contract was won in a competitive tender while in the Malaysian deal, GEC was one of only a couple of designated contractors listed in the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 1988 by Margaret Thatcher and Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, the Malaysian Prime Minister.

That memorandum led to the £1.3 billion arms deal subsequently linked to £234 million of aid to finance the Pergau dam.

The high cost of the Yarrow frigates has also been questioned by another Labour MP, Stephen Byers. The Swan Hunter shipyard, which is in his Wallsend constituency, was dissuaded from bidding for the Malaysian contract by the Defence Ministry.

Mr Williams's motion ex-

Continued on page 2, col 5

No truce in the war of words

The Malaysian Prime Minister, Mahathir Mohamed, brushed aside an opportunity to cool the rhetorical war with the British press saying that it portrays his country as a banana republic..... Page 2

THE TIMES

The Times has recorded the biggest rise in readership of any national daily newspaper in the past six months, with particularly significant increases among the affluent and the young. Almost 1.3 million now read *The Times* every day, an increase of 11.6 per cent over 1992-93, according to the new National Readership Survey for August 1993 to January 1994.

At 40p on Saturdays, 30p less than The Daily Telegraph, *The Times* is the best value, with the best writing, of any quality paper.

Search for fourth body

Police were last night searching for a fourth body they believe may be buried behind the home of a Gloucester builder who has been charged with the murders of three women. The search centred on the concrete flooring of an extension built on the back of Frederick West's house in Cromwell Street.

Detectives investigating the alleged murders were still trying to trace Mr West's first wife and her daugher. Relatives say they have not seen Catherine and Charmain Costello for some 20 years.

Bombers guilty

Four fundamentalist Muslims were convicted yesterday for planting the bomb beneath New York's World Trade Centre which killed six people a year ago. As the verdicts were read out in a heavily-policed Manhattan court after six days of deliberations, the four convicted men pounded on tables chanting "God is Great!" in Arabic. The four all face life imprisonment without parole.

Power sell-off

The Government last night signalled the end of its £55.5 billion programme of privatising state companies when it announced plans to sell its remaining £4 billion stake in National Power and PowerGen, in the coming financial year. The Government had kept a 40 per cent holding in each company..... Page 25

Britain's youngest spy chief appointed

BY MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

DAVID Spedding, a career intelligence officer, was named by the Foreign Office yesterday as the next chief of the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS), succeeding Sir Colin McColl, who retires in September.

Mr Spedding, 51 on Monday and married with two children, will be the youngest head of SIS, also known as MI6, since it was founded in 1909. He is expected to remain in the top job for at least five years. He is now director of operations and Sir Colin's deputy.

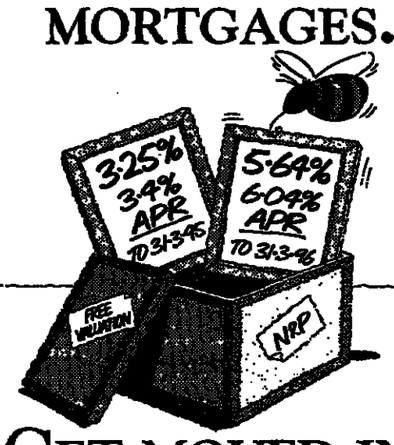
The Foreign Office said the announcement was the latest example of more open government. Sir Colin was named officially last year, although he had been in the post for four years. The public announcement matched the statement put out by the Home Office two years ago when Stella Rimington was appointed director-general of MI5, the domestic service.

In *Who's Who*, Mr Spedding lists his recreations as golf, tennis and medieval history and his address as the Foreign Office.

Sir Colin stayed on longer than intended as MI6 chief to help the service to adapt to the post-Cold War era.

Man in the News, page 2

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FTA 04/PR/1

Poacher is hooked by a fish that had swallowed a chip

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

POACHER Paul Williams made a serious mistake on a visit to the river Hirnant in North Wales last December. One of the salmon he gaffed that night came with its own chips.

In the salmon's stomach was a small transistor radio transmitter, used by scientists to track the fish. Water bailiffs of the National Rivers Authority traced the signals to Williams's home, where they found the gleaming fish on his kitchen table.

Yesterday, Williams, 19, from Cysgod-y-Coleg, admitted taking the salmon without a licence and an additional charge of threatening behaviour. Magistrates at Bala, Gwynedd, deferred sentence for five weeks for reports, but Helen Roberts, the chairman, told him: "This is a very serious case and we have in mind a custodial sentence or a community service order."

The NRA said the case was the first in which a transmitter-equipped fish had been used to catch a poacher. A spokeswoman said it "should act as a warning to other poachers. This device ... may well double up as a trap to counter today's poacher."

Fisheries scientist Bill Purvis, of the NRA's Dee tracking project, said that, in the past three years, more than 450 salmon had been fitted with the tiny cylindrical transmitters. The fish are netted in the estuary as they enter the rivers to spawn. They are anaesthetised before the devices are fitted. Salmon do not feed in fresh water so the transmitters cause them no problems.

Each fish is given a slightly different frequency, and its movements can be detected from automatic stations on the river bank, or by scientists with hand-held receivers. The fish are also given an orange tag on their dorsal fins to warn anglers that they are bugged.

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Mahathir attacks 'banana republic' press coverage

BY JAMES PRINGLE

THE Malaysian Prime Minister accused the British press of portraying his country as a banana republic yesterday when he spurned a chance to end the dispute over his ban on investment by British companies in government projects.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed rejected a letter of explanation from Andrew Neil, editor of *The Sunday Times*, which appeared in *The Times* yesterday. *The Sunday Times* published an article that the Malaysians have construed as alleging government corruption. Dr Mahathir said: "He says he regrets I misunderstood what was written. If I misunderstood, then lots of other people around the world seem to misunderstand too, because they have been publishing remarks about how corrupt we all are."

The Prime Minister added: "As far as we are concerned, we have no quarrel with the British Government or people. Our quarrel is with the press for printing rubbish."

He said that he perceived a racist element in some of the press coverage of the Pergau dam affair. "I think there is an assumption that all these people — these natives — are not very straight. They all receive money and they run tinpot countries, banana republics and things like that."

Dr Mahathir said that his government's boycott of British companies would not damage Malaysia's interests. "We will give the contracts to other people."

On whether there had been a link between British aid and arms sales, he said: "There is no link. The negotiations went on at the same time, yes. But if you think that, in terms of time, there must be a link, then we should all stop doing any negotiation every time we buy arms. But if the British Government insists that when we are buying arms from them we should not give any contracts to them, that is fine by us. We will give the contracts to others."

He did, however, indicate a possible way out of the impasse. "I think the British Government is in possession of the truth about the Pergau project, how much money it gave, whether it was in the form of a loan or a grant," he said. "This should be explained to the newspapers now coming out with incorrect reports. The British Government can say it was not a grant, it was a loan."

Later he continued his attack on the press. "It would seem to me that the British press is very keen to get rid of the present Government," he said. "But don't ask me for help. I am not interested in interfering in British politics."

In an apparent reference to an earlier article in *The Times*, detailing an alleged British colonial slight to Dr Mahathir's father, he said: "This is ridiculous. If I get annoyed about something, then somebody says it's because my father was not promoted 60 or 70 years ago."

Radar deal, page 1
Wider powers, page 10

Graduate of Beirut's school for spies groomed for MI6

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THERE was a shortlist of one to be the new head of MI6. David Spedding, announced yesterday as successor to Sir Colin McColl in September, was seen as the outstanding candidate.

Rumours 18 months ago that two women were being considered for the post, to match MI5's appointment of Stella Rimington as director-general, proved baseless.

David Rolland Spedding CVO OBE, director of operations and official number two to Sir Colin, has arrived at the top of the Secret Intelligence Service — also known as MI6 — by a different route from the present encumbent's. However, like most of his predecessors, he is a career intelligence officer. The only outsider to have been appointed as MI6 chief was Sir John Rennie, a former diplomat.

Mr Spedding is a Middle East specialist and has served in Beirut, Abu Dhabi and Amman. His only foreign posting outside the region was to Santiago, Chile, between 1972 and 1974. He spent three years in Abu Dhabi and three in Amman, where he was made Commander of the Royal Victorian Order on the occasion of the Queen's visit to Jordan.

Mr Spedding, 51 on Monday, will be the youngest MI6 chief on record. Although he was chosen as the best man for the job, he has leapfrogged a generation. He is one of six directors at the SIS, all but one relatively young, and a former controller for all operations in the Middle East, based in London.

He joined the SIS in 1967 and the next year was sent to the Middle East Centre for Arabic Studies, near Beirut, an institution known for nurturing spies.

Arabic specialists in MI6 stopped going there for language tuition when the civil war broke out in Lebanon. MI6 and Foreign Office diplomats now go to a centre in Cairo. From the studies centre he was posted to Beirut, the last refuge of the former MI6 officer Kim Philby before he defected to Moscow in 1963.

MAN IN THE NEWS

During his career, Mr Spedding became an expert in Middle Eastern terrorism and in the late 1980s he served as head of a joint operational section on the Middle East, staffed by personnel from MI6 and MI5.

His experience and flair in countering Middle Eastern terrorism and his abilities as a controller and then director marked him out as a potential chief. He also served in the personnel section at the London office. Sir Colin, during his five years as chief, cultivated a more open management style, allowing his staff to come directly to him when they wanted to discuss issues in their areas.

Although Mr Spedding may have a different style of running the service, it is anticipated that he will adopt a similar approach to openness, particularly as the Intelligence Services Bill, now at committee stage in the Commons, will be law by the time he takes over.

His office will be in the new building at Vauxhall Cross, south London, which has cost £230 million — £144 million for the building and site and £86 million for special fittings. His salary will be equivalent to that of a Grade 1A Civil Service Second Permanent Secretary, currently £82,925 a year.

Mr Spedding, who is married with two sons, is the first MI6 chief-elect to be publicly announced by the Foreign Office. He was educated at Sherborne School and Hertford College, Oxford, and married Gillian Kinnear in 1970.

He is expected to serve for at least five years. Like Sir Colin, he has let it be known that he does not wished to be photographed.

New spymaster, page 1
Leading article, page 19

Rape victim tells police how to cope



Jill Saward talking about her experiences of a sex attack to police yesterday

Jill Saward, the Ealing vicarage rape victim, yesterday told West Mercia police about her experiences to help them to cope with sex attack cases. Jill, 29, who is married and expecting her first child in July, said: "The response of officers on the course has been very rewarding. I have been amazed by the depth of their questions and their concerns about the traumas suffered by the victims of rape." She is contributing to a series of three-day courses at Droitwich, Hereford and Worcester, for 60 CID and uniformed officers and hopes to extend her involvement in police training with other forces that want to run similar courses. Sergeant Julie Scott, the course organiser, said: "By talking about her experiences Jill is able to show the students just what a victim goes through. The officers involved have derived enormous benefit from meeting her."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Clarke forecasts sustained upswing

Kenneth Clarke confidently forecast yesterday that Britain's recovery from a "long and bruising recession" will bring a sustained upswing running into the next century. The Chancellor conceded that "the wounds are still tender" after the recession but declared that the "fundamentals of the British economy are better than they have been for a very long time".

He insisted that Britain was "set to be the fastest growing of the large European economies this year", but issued a warning against complacency on inflation and emphasised the need for greater industrial competitiveness, a theme set out by John Major last month.

Steroids 'affected killer'

Brendan Byrne, 27, a club bouncer of Warrington who took anabolic steroids, was yesterday jailed for life for killing a two-year-old girl. Mr Justice Buckley accepted that steroids played a part in Natasha Murray's death. She was so badly battered that it took an hour and a quarter for a pathologist to log her injuries. The trial at Mold Crown Court ended suddenly when Byrne changed his plea and admitted murder. The jury was told by Dr Yassin El-Gaddal, a consultant psychiatrist of Winwick Hospital, Warrington, that steroids had side-effects including increased aggression.

Bligh woman's bounty

A descendant of Captain Bligh of the *Bounty* yesterday won her High Court battle to reclaim family heirlooms from a collector. Jennifer Bligh Innes, of Uppingham, Leicestershire, sued Stephen Walters, who tried to auction a 1782 oil portrait of the captain's wife, worth £40,000, and three water colours. Mr Justice Rougier said Mrs Innes was entitled to the paintings she claimed belonged to her father's estate. The court was told Mr Walters took advantage of her father's disability after a stroke to obtain the pictures after they were lent to him for an exhibition.

Crash victim missing

A teenager with a broken neck has gone missing after hospital treatment following a crash involving a stolen car near Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, late on Wednesday. Two of the boy's friends were killed and another paralysed in the crash. The injured 18-year-old was discharged by the hospital without police knowledge on Thursday night.

Triple rapist given life

Andrew Armstrong, 28, of Liverpool, was jailed for life by Leeds Crown Court for a violent sex attack on a 19-year-old waitress six months after he was released from a seven-year sentence for rape. He attacked the woman after an argument with his girlfriend. He was also jailed for three years by Liverpool Crown Court in 1986 for rape.

Suspended boys return

Two boys aged 13 and 14 who were suspended from the 800-pupil Community School in Torpoint, Cornwall, after allegations of involvement in drugs may return, an independent panel has ruled after their parents appealed to the county council. The school's governors are asking the Education Secretary for a policy statement on dealing with such cases.

CSA sought dead man

The Child Support Agency tried to pursue a man for maintenance four years after he had died. His widow, Christine Joyce, of Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, said the CSA refused to believe her husband had died and demanded to see his death certificate. She said they had been happily married and her husband, Derek, had been a good father.

Times supports awards

The Laurence Olivier Awards, the most important theatre awards in Britain, are to be supported by *The Times* for the first time. The nominations for the 24 awards will be announced exclusively in *The Times* on Monday. Presented by the Society of London Theatre in association with American Express, the Oliviers will be awarded on April 17.

Malaysia mark-ups challenged

Continued from page 1

amines the structure of some of the contracts and notes that GMPM "with a handful of purely administrative staff is unlikely to carry out processes which explain the marked-up price".

He also asks for an explanation of the two-tier pricing system and, noting that payment for the radar and communications systems was to be made in a "cocktail" of Malaysian, American and British currencies, and asks about the affect on GEC's tax liability in the UK "from whose taxpayers GEC has received millions of pounds in export support".

Representatives of all the GEC companies are housed on the 15th floor of the Bangunan Tabung Haji building in Kuala Lumpur which is owned by the Malaysian Pilgrimage Board. The board is a shareholder in GEC Malaysia, a separate company. One of that company's biggest shareholders is Tan Sri Arumugam, who helped to broker the aid and arms deals.

John Doyle, a senior executive of GMPM, said last night: "There is nothing in this. You are just trying to make a mountain out of nothing." A spokesman for GEC in London declined to comment.

CORRECTION

A transmission error in a report (March 2) gave the incorrect impression that the British-American Chamber of Commerce had been addressed in New York last month by Mr Gerry Adams, of Sinn Fein. That was not the case, and we apologise for the mistake.

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Parents support head facing second complaint of abuse

BY BEN PRESTON

PARENTS last night rallied behind a head teacher sacked and reinstated for sitting a child on his knee during morning assembly, who had a further complaint made about him on his first day back at work.

They said that Richard Connor, of Alderley Edge County Primary School in Cheshire, was the victim of a "politically correct paranoia" sweeping schools after he took sick leave suffering stress following a further complaint about an alleged incident on Monday.

County officials and governors yesterday launched an investigation into the latest claim that Mr Connor touched a five-year-old in his office within hours of his return. Mr Connor has not been suspended and emphatically rejects the allegation. The enquiry is expected to last days rather than weeks, according to officials. A source said: "The fact that it might fall through is an option."

Parents campaigning to stop Mr Connor being "hounded out" report a tide of sympathy in his favour after the latest allegation became public. A petition supporting Mr Connor and criticising the school governors' handling of the affair has been signed within 24 hours by about a quarter of the families with children attending the 150-pupil school.

Teaching unions said the case highlighted the restrictions placed on teachers since the Children Act came into force two years ago and the profession's vulnerability to malicious or ill-founded allegations of abuse.

Mr Connor, 46, married with one daughter aged 20, has been head of Alderley Edge for 11 years and a teacher for 24. Speaking from his home in Macclesfield, Cheshire, yesterday he said: "All I want to do is get back to teaching, get back to the school and help us to go forward."

Mr Connor returned to work after six months' suspension and dismissal, having volunteered not to touch, teach or be alone with pupils. He was reinstated on appeal on condition that he attends a training course advising teachers on the acceptable boundaries of physical contact with pupils.

Mr Connor was interviewed twice by police in the autumn but was not charged or cautioned. He admitted inappropriate contact with pupils after parents complained about several occasions last year when he took pupils on his knee. All the incidents took place in the company of other pupils and his supporters argue that the case reflects a growing intolerance of any physical contact between male teachers and children.



Connor: on sick leave suffering from stress

Yet the overwhelming majority of parents appear to have swung decisively behind Mr Connor since the latest complaint.

Moira Fox-Bekerman, a campaigner for his return, said if there were any lingering doubts about the headteacher's suitability, parents would have withdrawn their children like a shot. She said: "The classrooms have been full and that is a vote of confidence in itself."

Mrs Fox-Bekerman, who has three daughters at the school, said the pressures on male primary teachers to end all physical contact with pupils were growing intense in the wake of the Children Act.

She said: "Just because most child abusers are men does not mean all men should be seen as abusers. This is political correctness taken to a ridiculous extent. There is a paranoia spreading in society and Mr Connor is a victim.

"Sitting a child on a teacher's knee to read or putting an arm around them while correcting work is reassuring and comforting. No one would dream of questioning a woman teacher who does that."

Colin Moore, who has a five-year-old daughter at the school, said: "There is what I call a 'mad social worker disease' sweeping society. Mr Connor has not changed his teaching style after 11 years as head. He has not suddenly become tactile and demonstrative, it is the law and attitudes that have changed."

Teaching unions have registered a rise in the number of teachers suspended pending investigations arising from commonplace incidents such as comforting a distressed child or breaking up a playground fight. One union has advised teachers not to shout in class to avoid allegations of abuse.

John Taylor, a regional official with the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said he was certain that parental support would carry weight as Mr Connor tried to overcome his difficulties.



Harding: assailant pushed her onto her hands and knees and jumped on her back

Tonya Harding attacked as she walks in park

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

TONYA Harding, the figure skater, was attacked by an unknown man in a park near her flat yesterday, adding another bizarre twist to a tale that has more convolutions than an Olympic ice dance.

Harding, who is under investigation for her alleged role in the attack on her rival Nancy Kerrigan, told police she was assaulted at about 11pm after she parked her pick-up truck and began to walk to her home in Beaverton, Oregon. She suffered bruises, a sprained wrist and cuts to her knees and hands. The attacker ran away after Harding set off a rape alarm.

Harding has been accused of lying about receiving threats before the attack on Kerrigan but police said they do not doubt the authenticity of this latest report. "Everything that we've looked at, based on the physical evidence at the scene and her mental state at the time, certainly suggests it was a legitimate attack," Mark Hyde, a police spokesman, said. "He hit, shoved and pushed her on her hands and knees, and jumped on her back when she was down."

Harding, who finished eighth in the Olympic figure skating competition, told investigators that the attack lasted less than two minutes. After the attack she ran to a friend's flat, called police and was briefly treated in hospital. Police with sniffer dogs searched the park and interviewed residents but have not found a suspect.

On Tuesday, Harding claimed she was punched in the ribs by a man in the crowd that greeted her arrival at Portland airport. He ran away, leaving Harding uninjured.

"She thought it was on purpose," a police officer accompanying Harding said. "She said it was a white male who balled up his fist and slugged her but there were too many people for her to identify him." Police would not say whether the same man is suspected of attacking Harding yesterday.

The US Justice Department said it was reviewing the assault on Kerrigan to decide whether Harding committed any federal crimes by her alleged involvement in the plot to disable her opponent before the national figure skating championships.

In another development in that affair, advertisements for Tower Records appeared in the New York press this week bearing a picture of Harding and the caption: "Unbeatable prices that will bring you to your knees." Harding does not have an endorsement contract with Tower Records and her lawyers have not commented on the advertisements.

Channel 4 sued over quiz format

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

A HUSBAND and wife team of freelance television producers have accused Channel 4 of stealing their idea for a quiz show and using it in a new Saturday evening programme presented by Chris Evans, star of *The Big Breakfast*.

David and Kathy Rose claim they gave an idea for a programme called *Superfan* or *Number One Fan* to Channel 4 in May 1990. The idea, in which a celebrity competes against his or her biggest fan in a quiz about themselves, features as an item on Mr Evan's show *Don't Forget Your Toothbrush* as the *Superfan Quiz*. The couple are suing for damages.

Mrs Rose, who makes pop videos and children's programmes with her husband, said: "We had a unique and original idea and we are confident that we will win."

Channel 4 yesterday categorically denied there was any connection between any of the Roses' ideas, which it rejected in 1990, and *Don't Forget Your Toothbrush*. A spokesman for Mr Evans said the idea for a "superfan" quiz had come from the presenter's own production team.

The dispute is the latest in a series of setbacks for *Don't Forget Your Toothbrush*, which has been on air for three weeks. Channel 4 spent an estimated £400,000 on pilot programmes, which are all said to have flopped. A new producer had to be brought in after the first one left.

The problem of intellectual property rights is a persistent one in television. In one of the most celebrated cases, Thames Television paid an estimated £500,000 in an out-of-court settlement to a female rock band and their manager who were the inspiration for its hit series *Rock Follies*.

□ Bruce Forsyth attacked BBC chiefs yesterday for not paying enough attention to light entertainment.

The star of *The Generation Game* and *Play Your Cards Right* has been poached by London Weekend Television from the BBC in a £1-million deal.

He said: "It seems as though variety is a dirty word with the light entertainment people. It seems to be a swear word for a lot of people. Variety should be a very fresh thing and it could be even today if it had the right slots."

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Rock singer collapses in hotel

KURT Cobain, lead singer of the American rock band Nirvana, was recovering at a hospital in Rome yesterday after collapsing from fatigue and severe influenza.

Cobain, 27, who is mid-way through a European tour, suffered complications after he took a combination of alcohol and painkillers prescribed for stomach pains.

The Seattle-based group, whose 1991 album *Nevermind* has sold 10 million copies worldwide, is due to play four dates at the Brixton Academy, south London, next month.

The group's management company declined to say whether the remaining dates of the tour would be cancelled.

Cobain, who has a history of drug abuse and has admitted taking heroin, was found unconscious on the floor of his hotel room by his wife.



Cobain: found on the floor by wife

Freedom aftershock kills earthquake cat

BY BILL FROST

A CAT trapped in a garden shed for six weeks after the Los Angeles earthquake lost the last of her nine lives yesterday.

Veterinary surgeons treating Tiffany, a 10-year-old Persian mix, said she died of delayed stress — freedom after captivity was too great a shock.

The cat fled into a neighbour's shed when the earth shook on January 17 and was accidentally locked in. While her owner posted "lost cat" notices locally and advertised in the papers, Tiffany was surviving although she had no food and little water. She was found "frail, stiff and very cold" last Sunday.

Before Tiffany died, gifts from wellwishers had piled up at a US veterinary clinic, where she was purring and believed to be on the road to recovery. Hours later, however, a nurse confirmed the cat had died. "She seemed so well at first. Then the delayed stress got Tiffany. We are all in tears. The fact she survived so long was incredible."

Dr Roger Mugford, of the Animal Behaviour Centre in Chertsey, Surrey, said: "Her age was against her, but she, like any other cat, was not going to be beaten. She was tough, a fantastic survivor."

Leading article, page 19

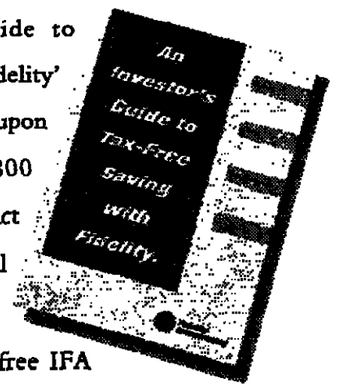
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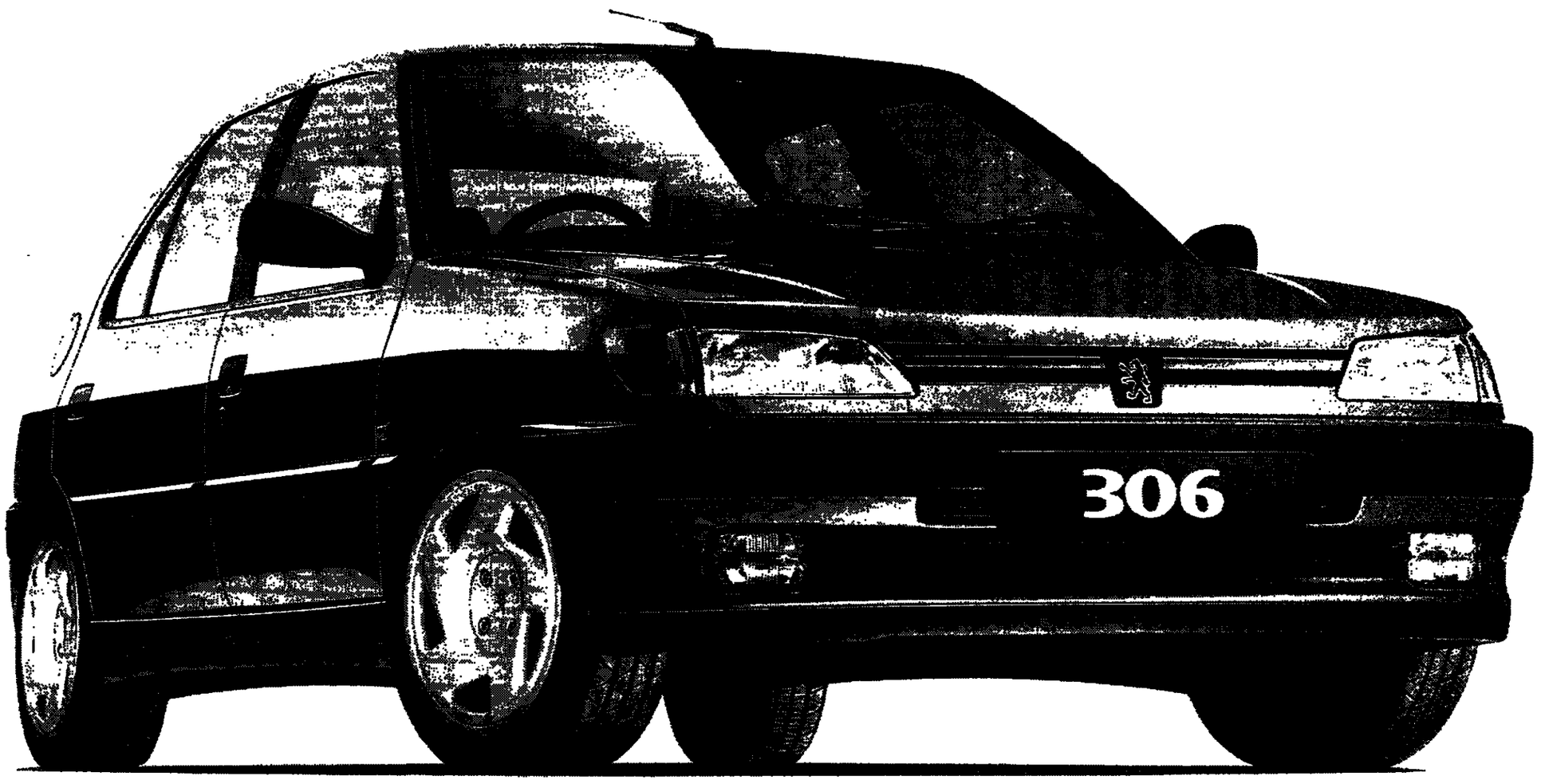
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PEUGEOT

Thorp nuclear plant wins go-ahead for fuel reprocessing

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE Thorp nuclear plant will begin reprocessing spent fuel from across the world within weeks after a High Court judge yesterday ruled that the Government had not acted illegally in giving it the go-ahead.

The £2.8 billion project at Sellafield, Cumbria, has cleared its final hurdle after 15 years of fierce debate.

British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL), owner and operator of the plant, said it expected to begin cutting up spent fuel rods, the first phase of reprocessing, within two weeks.

Mr Justice Potts rejected an application for a ruling that the Government acted "unreasonably and irrationally" in giving Thorp the go-ahead without first holding a public enquiry. The application was made by Greenpeace and Lancashire County Council.

He said that John Gummer, the Environment Secretary and Gillian Shephard, the Agriculture Minister, had acted within the law when they gave BNFL authorisations to discharge radioactive substances into the air and the Irish Sea in December.

But Mr Justice Potts conceded that if he had been the minister in charge he would have ordered a public enquiry to satisfy widespread public interest and concern.

"It may be thought that a minister sensible to the scale of representations ... and the desirability of allaying public anxiety would have directed an enquiry," he said.

The judge surprised the court when he refused to order Greenpeace and the county council to pay the legal costs of the case, unofficially estimated at up to £1 million. He said they had succeeded "on an important point of law" on the justification issue and there was clearly very great public interest in the decisions of the ministers.

The judge said the Government had erred in concluding that justification was not a legal requirement and added that the case deserved to be brought because of the public interest. The ruling, which Greenpeace is unlikely to contest, ends nearly two deacades of speculation over the fate of the Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant (Thorp).

It was greeted with delight by BNFL, which will reprocess spent fuel from Britain, Japan, Germany and Canada. David Bonser, director of Thorp, said: "This is a great decision and great news for Thorp and tremendous news for BNFL and the 500 employees at Thorp. They now have long-term, secure jobs at the plant."

Donald Macgregor, GMB official for BNFL workers, said: "At long last the people of West Cumbria can breathe a sigh of relief and get on with their lives."

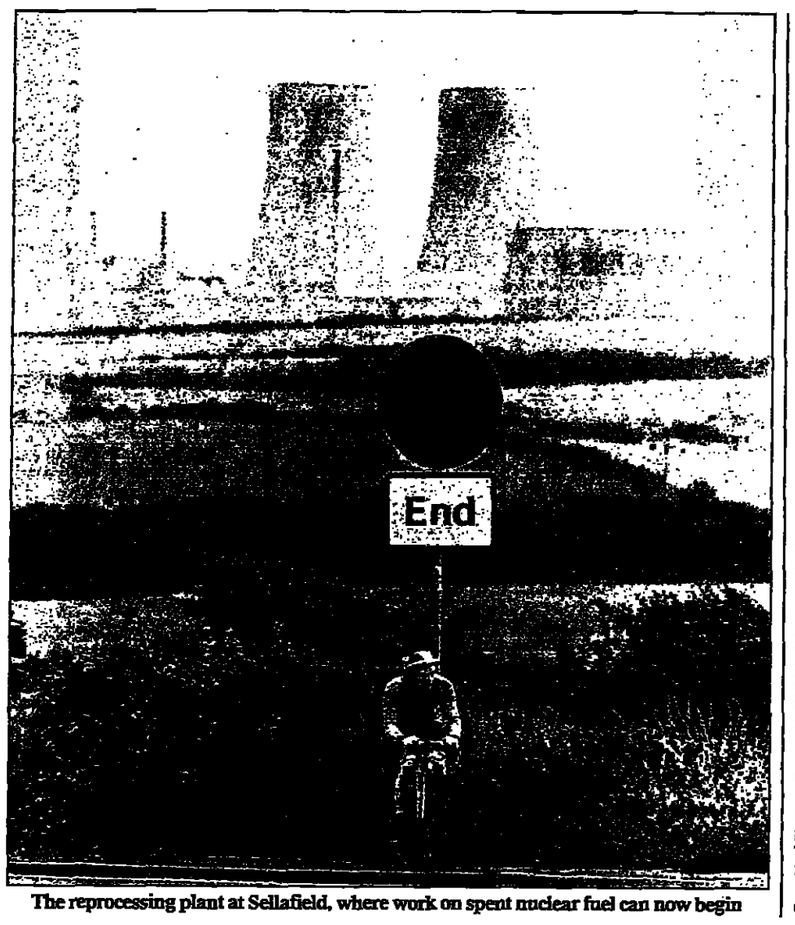
The ruling was also welcomed in Japan by the Tokyo Electric Power Company on behalf of the ten Japanese utilities who have contracts with Thorp.

BNFL has maintained that its contracts are worth £9 billion. Greenpeace had argued that the go-ahead was unjustifiable on financial and environmental grounds as reprocessing spent fuel was uneconomic, would increase the world's supply of bomb-making plutonium and the incidence of human cancer.

The council joined the group amid fears that increased discharges from the Sellafield site would contaminate parts of the Lancashire coastline, including fisheries off Fleetwood and Morecambe Bay.

Peter Melchett, executive director of Greenpeace, pledged that the group would fight on. Action could include attempts to block rail, road and sea shipments to Sellafield.

Yesterday's ruling came as Nuclear Electric, the state-owned nuclear generator, was fined a total of £34,000 after admitting two charges of deliberately leaking radioactive gas into the air from the Wylfa power station in Anglesey last July.



The reprocessing plant at Sellafield, where work on spent nuclear fuel can now begin


Melchett: pledge from Greenpeace to fight on

BA faces second dirty tricks claim

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

BRITISH Airways is facing another courtroom battle over "dirty tricks" after allegations that it helped bring down Harry Goodman's International Leisure Group holiday empire three years ago.

Mr Goodman has issued a writ against BA accusing its directors, including Lord King, the former chairman, and other employees of "orchestrating a dirty tricks campaign which seriously affected Mr Goodman's business".

The writ claims this "led to a climate in which financial backers drew their support, resulting in the collapse of the business in March 1991".

Yesterday it emerged that Mr Goodman had been granted emergency legal aid to pursue his case and had contacted Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin Atlantic, for advice days before issuing the writ.

Virgin said the action by Mr Goodman was not directly related to its own dispute with BA, but was unlikely to have gone ahead had Virgin not won a libel action against BA in January last year.

Mr Goodman is seeking damages arising from the demise of ILG, whose brands had included Intasun, Club 18-30 and Global, with the loss of about 6,000 jobs. His airline Air Europe also collapsed and he claims to have personal debts of more than £7 million.

His solicitor, Stuart McInnes, said there was evidence to support allegations that BA obtained access to confidential computer information, spread disinformation, tried to undermine the financial stability of Mr Goodman and his business, and tried to undermine confidence in him and his business.

A Virgin spokesman said Mr Branson had been contacted by Mr Goodman but had not offered any legal advice. Mr Goodman said his action was independent.

BA is still locked in a dispute with Virgin over allegations that it mounted a commercially unfair campaign against it. A further legal battle is due to start in New York on March 25.

BA said it knew of "nothing that justifies the claims made in Mr Goodman's writ". It was "confident that Mr Goodman will fail to make his case".

Mother's struggle pays off

A WOMAN who carried her baby while she wheeled a heavy old microscope to the *Antiques Roadshow* in the child's pram saw her efforts rewarded yesterday.

The instrument, which experts identified as a rare Powell and Lealand model made in 1842, sold at auction for almost £25,000.

The 29-year-old Midlands woman, who declined to give her name, had taken the microscope to the BBC television show out of curiosity. It belonged to her parents.

"I asked Mum and Dad if they had anything I could take and they told me about the old microscope in the study," she said. "We really hadn't a clue what it was worth. It was so heavy I put it in the pram and carried my daughter instead."

Hilary Kay, a director of Sotheby's, said: "It is an extraordinarily powerful microscope which would have been the equivalent of today's electron microscopes."

At the same auction, the original lamp fitting invented by Thomas Edison 113 years ago sold for £8,050, and a German-made Enigma enciphering machine used by the British to decode enemy signals during the Second World War sold for £14,375.

Abortion woman 'devious'

A WOMAN who died after an abortion had been "devious and dishonest" in getting a family planning clinic to agree to the termination, a coroner said yesterday.

David Hinchliffe, the Leeds coroner, was speaking as an inquest jury recorded a verdict of misadventure on Sarbjit Lall, 29, of Bradford, a mother of three daughters who found she was expecting a girl.

The operation was arranged by a Marie Stopes family planning clinic in Leeds after Mrs Lall, who was 18 weeks pregnant, said she was suffering from depression and could not cope with a fourth child.

Susan Firth, the clinic manager, said Marie Stopes, in line with the 1967 Abortion Act, would not have allowed a termination on the grounds of the unborn child's sex.

Mrs Lall, a quality controller, died last May three days after the abortion at St James's Hospital, Leeds. She had suffered internal bleeding and cardiac arrest.

Mr Hinchliffe said: "I have not throughout the enquiry exposed any evidence of any lack of care on the part of any involved agencies. I have exposed evidence of deviousness and dishonesty in seeking to achieve ends by devious and dishonest means."

Boy killed himself fearing school ban

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A BOY with a passion for art hanged himself after his school friends informed on him for drawing graffiti on a physics classroom workbench, an inquest was told yesterday.

Michael Hoyle, 15, who feared he would be suspended, used a strap from his bag to hang himself from a light fitting inside a toilet cubicle.

He was found by his headmaster, who kicked down the toilet door to get to him.

School matrons at Oxted County comprehensive school, Oxted, Surrey, and ambulance crews failed to revive Michael.

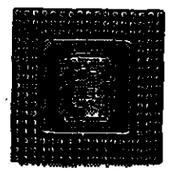
Keith Godsmark, a physics teacher, told the inquest at Redhill, Surrey, that other pupils had told him that the culprit was Michael.

The statement of a fellow pupil, read to the inquest, revealed that Michael, of South Godstone, Surrey, believed he was in serious trouble for drawing a black man with a cigarette in his mouth and the words: "Give me a light."

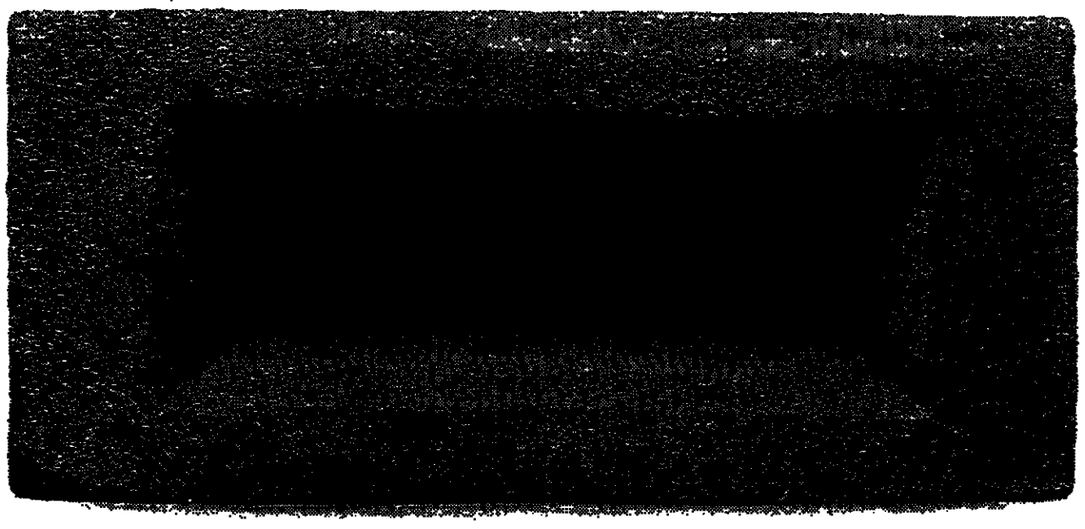
The week before Michael's death on February 2, two pupils had been suspended for similar misdemeanours. Another pupil said Michael believed he might be expelled and was concerned about the reaction of his family.

Recording a verdict of suicide, the Surrey Coroner, Mr Michael Burgess, said: "There had been graffiti at the school and there had been people suspended. Michael was quite likely to have drawn a conclusion that he would have had meted out to him the same sort of treatment that the other pupils were given. It seems to me to be a tragic waste of life."

The boy's father, Michael, 38, an oil rig worker, said: "Michael should have been taken in and dealt with at the time. Why was he left to stew and wait for an impending punishment?"



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PEUGEOT

Driver escapes as Customs discover 11 illegal Turks in van

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

CUSTOMS officials believe they have broken an immigration smuggling racket with the discovery of 11 Turks hidden in the back of a truck. The five men, three women and three children had been concealed in the vehicle for a week prior to their arrival at Portsmouth aboard a ferry from Le Havre.

They were in a makeshift compartment hidden behind blankets, boxes and mattresses in the back of a Ford Transit brewery van. They had a few cold drinks and pieces of bread and a number of buckets had been used as toilets.

Detective Chief Inspector John Harvey of Portsmouth police said: "There was not much there at all. It was quite a pathetic sight. It is quite sad in some ways."

Customs officers stopped the van moments after it passed immigration formalities, having driven off the P&O ferry *Pride of Le Havre*. They had been watching the van closely after it was spotted regularly going in and out of the harbour. The driver, who spoke with an Irish accent, leapt from the van and ran away when challenged to open the back of the vehicle. He has not been traced.

Officers found the people, believed to be Kurds from Kurdistan, hiding in the back. They had little money and some food but they were not in ill health.

A police spokesman said: "It seems they might have been in the vehicle for about a week. They are from Turkey originally but as yet we do not know exactly where they have come from in the van."

The illegal immigrants include a 10-year-old boy, his 14-year-old sister and a 15-year-old boy. The adults are aged between 21 and 38. Five men were being held at Portsmouth Central police station for questioning yesterday pending deportation. The children and three women have been given temporary admission into the UK and released to stay with relatives in north London's Turkish community.

The trade in smuggled human cargo from Turkey to England has increased in recent months as a result of the Turkish government's crackdown on Kurdish activities, according to community workers in Stoke Newington.

Peasant families are selling their homes and possessions to pay for the trip across Europe. The going rate for smuggling people to Britain is £2,000 an adult and up to £800 a child, according to sources in the Turkish community.

Last month 47 Kurds including women and children were detained by officials in Turkey who discovered them hidden in a concealed compartment of a lorry.

☐ More than 80 senior academics at Oxford University have protested to the Home Office over conditions in the immigration detention centre at Campsfield House, Kidlington, Oxfordshire.

The academics, including Sir Isaiah Berlin and Lord Bullock, said many people held in the centre had come to the UK seeking asylum from persecution but found themselves held without trial.

MARY EVANS LIBRARY



Magic and love: an evocation of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Why Bard dreamt up midsummer title

BY ALISON ROBERTS, ARTS REPORTER

ONE of the great Shakespearean mysteries may have been solved. A Welsh scholar says that he has discovered why the Bard chose the title *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Dr Johnson posed the question in the 18th century: "I know not why Shakespeare calls this play *A Midsummer Night's Dream* when he so carefully informs us that it happened on the night preceding May Day."

Since then scholars have agonised and quibbled over the date of the play and the occasion for which it was written. The play's midsummer madness, associated with magic and love, has often been cited as the only explanation.

Now John Idris Jones, lecturer at a Wrexham college and a Shakespearean detective, has discovered evidence that shows the play's title is "topical and particular, like *Twelfth Night*".

He says that the play was written for the wedding between Elizabeth Vere and William, Earl of Derby, which took place on June 26, 1594, two days after midsummer's night.

The theory may throw light on Shakespeare's movements during the early 1590s when the Great Plague raged in London and the public theatres were closed. It will certainly provoke controversy in the academic world, where Shakespearean history is riven by debate.

Mr Jones's theory, to be published in *The New Welsh Review* later this year, is partly based on bad handwriting. He believes that previous scholars have got the Derby wedding's date wrong, following the Shakespearean commentator E. K. Chambers, who gave it as January 26, 1595.

Mr Jones claims that Mr Chambers mistranscribed *Jun* for *Jan* and missed the significance of the date.

Elizabeth I would have been present at the wedding, which was solemnized at Greenwich Palace, where the court then was. Mr Jones thinks the first performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* took place there, explaining references to a palace and its royal owner.

But sceptics were quick off the mark yesterday. Peter Levi, author of *The Life and Times of William Shakespeare*, said: "One has to be very careful. When all the gloomy, negative scholars have gone through it, they may well find a reason for it not to be true."



Greenwich Palace, scene of the Elizabethan wedding

Obsessed son kills mother

A MAN murdered his widowed mother after she refused to reveal the identity of his father. He then apparently committed suicide by slashing his wrists.

Relatives of Ann Sinclair, 70, who died in the knife attack, described yesterday how her eldest son, William, 46, devoted his life to trying to trace his real father.

Mrs Sinclair had constantly refused to tell him since he first asked the question at the age of six. Her son finally snapped and stabbed his mother to death with a kitchen knife in her flat at an old people's sheltered housing scheme in Eastwood, Nottinghamshire.

After the killing, William, who had given up his job as a factory worker, cut his wrists in a taxi that he had asked to take him to Hucknall police station five miles away.

His sister, Violet McVicar, 50, said William had tried in vain to persuade their mother to tell him who his father was. "He had fallen out with his family over this. He never forgave our mother for not telling him what he always wanted to know.

"He felt it was his right to know who his father was and desperately wanted to trace him. It made him depressed and he was being treated by a doctor. As the years went by he became worse."

Det Supt Peter Coles said: "This is a very tragic case. We are not looking for anyone else in connection with this crime."

The dead man, who also lived in Eastwood, leaves a wife and two daughters.

Inadequate schools get last chance

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

THE first two schools judged to be failing their pupils were yesterday given a last chance by John Patten, the Education Secretary.

Mr Patten accepted action plans submitted by Crook Primary School, Durham, and Brookside Special School, Derbyshire, as sufficient to bring about the necessary improvements. But he warned both sets of governors that he would call in "hit squads" if progress was unsatisfactory.

The Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted), which published damning reports on the schools last year, will produce a new verdict next term. Mr Patten said: "I shall expect there to be clear evidence of progress by then. If there is not, I will not hesitate to transfer the schools to Education Associations from September 1."

Six schools have been identified as "failing" since the inspection system was introduced in September. The Drive County Primary School in Gateshead joined the list yesterday. The others, which are to submit action plans, are Northicote School in Wolverhampton, Stratford School in east London, and Battersea Technology College in south London.

Inspectors said the quality of teaching at Drive County Primary was generally unsatisfactory and in some classes it was poor. The school was failing to provide an acceptable standard of education.

Rescued climbers criticised by police

BY A STAFF REPORTER

TWO Belgian soldiers found alive by rescuers yesterday after spending the night in a blizzard near the summit of Ben Nevis were criticised by police for climbing without experience or suitable equipment.

Dirk Rynders, 31, and Peter Poriau, 24, survived by taking refuge in a shelter. They were not carrying crampons or ice axes, and the expedition is thought to have been their first in the Scottish mountains.

They went missing after becoming separated from a companion while descending in whiteout conditions. The companion raised the alarm. The pair were found at noon after a prolonged search by mountain rescuers and an RAF helicopter.

Police said virtually the only thing the men did right was to huddle into the shelter when they realised they had lost their colleague. "They only had one sleeping bag, one map and one compass between them, and were wearing rubber soled shoes. If they had asked us before setting off, we would have told them not to go up."

Poor weather is forecast for the Highlands this weekend. Police have advised climbers to get detailed advice about conditions before departing.

Forecast, page 24

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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

URDAY MARCH 5 199

ard dreamt ummer title

ARTS REPORTER

London and the pub
theatres were closed. It w
certainly provoke controver
in the academic world, wh
Shakespearean history is fo
en by debate.

Mr Jones's theory, to b
published in *The New Hi*
Review later this year,
partly based on bad handwri
ing. He believes that previo
scholars have got the Dek
wedding's date wrong, follo
ing the Shakespearean co
mentator E K Chambe
who gave it as January
1595.

Mr Jones claims that M
Chambers misTranscribe
Jun for *Jan* and missed th
significance of the date.

Elizabeth I would ha
been present at the weddi
which was solemnised
Greenwich Palace, where th
court then was. Mr Jo
thinks the first performan
of *A Midsummer Night*
Dream took place there, a
planning references to a pl
ace and its royal owner.

But sceptics were quick
the mark yesterday. Pe
Levi, author of *The Life a*
Times of William Shak
speare, said: "One has to
very careful. When all t
gloomy, negative schola
have gone through it, th
may well find a reason fo
not to be true."



e of the Elizabethan wedding

Inadequate schools get last chance

By JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE first two schools ... to be failing their pupils ... yesterday given ... by John Patten, the ... Secretary.

Mr Patten ... plans submitted by ... Primary School, Derby, and ... Brookside Spe... School, Derbyshire ... chief to bring about dram... sary improvements. He ... warned both schools that he would use ... squads" if progress is unsatisfactory.

The Office for Standards ... Education (Ofsted) ... published documents ... on the schools ... produce a new ... term Mr Patten ... expect there to be ... dence of progress ... there is not, he ... to transfer the ... Education ... September.

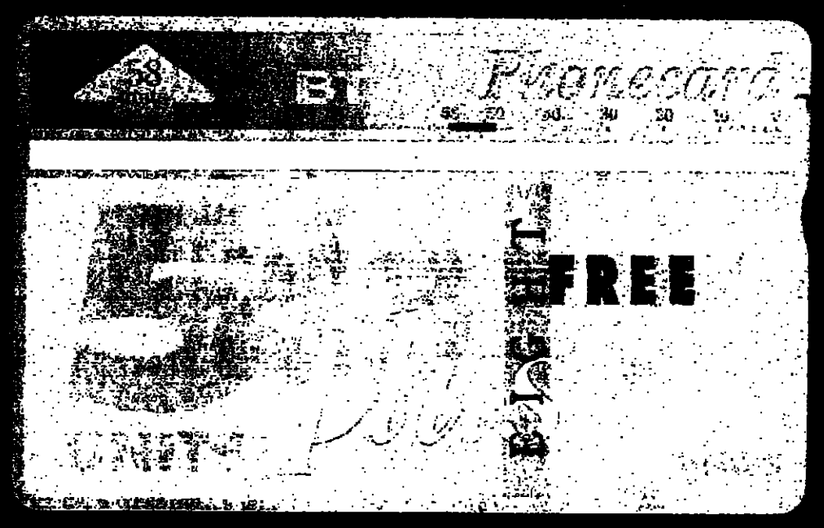
Six schools ... ified as ... inspection ... during ... Drive County ... in Gateshead ... yesterday. ... are to submit ... Southgate School, ... hampton, ... east London ... Technology ... London.

Inspectors ... of teaching ... Primary ... inflators ... it was ... failing to ... able standards ...

climbers l by police

A REPORTER

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BT

We go further, to bring you closer

Police liaise with Thais to thwart paedophile trips

BY STEWART TENDLER AND RICHARD FORD

■ A scheme to detect sex offenders and prevent them travelling abroad to prey on young children is being devised

BRITISH paedophiles travelling to Thailand to prey on child prostitutes face a tough strategy being planned by police and Thai officials.

Under the scheme being discussed in London, paedophiles identified by police intelligence work in Britain and Thailand would have applications for visas blocked. Others would be turned back on arrival or checked for any illegal material on their way back into this country.

Photographs and details of known paedophiles would be exchanged between Bangkok and London as the dossiers are built up. At present British police rarely get details of offenders who are arrested and thrown out of Thailand and the information would be valuable intelligence on a world closed to undercover officers.

One campaigning group, Anti-Slavery International, is also launching a drive to get the Government to introduce legislation that would allow adults charged with sex offences against children in Far Eastern countries to be tried in the United Kingdom.

David Auld, a spokesman for the charity, said: "It is the only way we can curb their activities. These people usually have lots of money and if they are arrested can bribe officials to get out of custody and then skip the country."

Germany and Sweden have introduced legislation but the British Government is opposed to such a measure except where serious crime such as terrorism is involved.

Louise Ellis, head of the team investigating paedophilia at the national criminal intelligence unit and part of the group involved in talks with the Thais, said British police were also trying to encourage the Thais to stop deporting offenders with a small fine but to try them and imprison them in Thailand. The unit's records cover 5,000 known or suspected paedophiles in Britain and police know there is a regular system of contacts with Thailand.

The children in Thailand are usually aged between 10 and 12 but they can be younger, depending on how well developed they are. On their return to Britain the paedophiles may partly fund their trips by selling amateur videos and obscene pictures.

Some of the paedophiles travel out on their own but others are making use of specially organised trips using contacts in the paedophile world. In Bangkok the visitors may be provided with apartments and have children supplied to them by agents. Child pornography magazines and newsletters have contact points in them and one guide on places for easy sex around the world is reported to be on sale in Britain for £60.

International child care workers and investigators believe Thailand is among half a dozen countries being used by paedophiles from Britain and the West using tourist vice centres. The Philippines, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Cambodia have been identified by aid workers as centres for paedophiles and British police believe Portugal may also be exploited by abusers.

At the Interpol headquarters in Lyons, officers are building up intelligence files on the worldwide trade and travelling child abusers.

Sudarat Srisang, of an Asian reform group called End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism, said paedophiles were targeting young children in Cambodia and Vietnam as those countries began to attract tourism. Speaking from Bangkok she said: "In Vietnam they look for young girls but in Cambodia it is more boys than girls."

In Thailand men pay from £10 to take a picture of a young boy to £40 for sexual activity. The sums are much larger if the boy spends the whole night with a man.

Miss Srisang said: "Western men can offer a lifestyle beyond anything they can provide for themselves."



The actress Diana Rigg and the designer Bruce Oldfield, right, who launched a £2.6 million fund-raising drive yesterday to help homeless young people in Covent Garden, London. Randall Alleyne, left, was helped by a similar Peabody Trust scheme which provided accommodation, training and job-search facilities



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Credo

Hebron massacre wounds Jews too

Albert Friedlander

Tragedies unite or divide the world. Certainly, the murderer at Hebron tore apart much of the fragile web of peace that concerned Israelis and Palestinians had begun to weave together.

Some of that web was an illusion, concealing problems that still defy solutions. Nevertheless, the Jewish community felt deeply involved in the peace negotiations and has been traumatised by what happened when death invaded a holy place.

The first reaction within British Jewry was great anguish. In my synagogue we held prayers for the men, women and children who were murdered at the time of their prayers. We had a larger than average congregation, which seemed to mirror what was happening all over London.

Almost every synagogue heard its rabbi follow the lead of the Chief Rabbi, Dr Jonathan Sacks, who had made a clear public statement: "Violence is evil. Violence committed in the name of God is doubly evil. Violence committed against those engaged in worshipping God is unspeakably evil." He spoke for all British Jewry.

As Rabbi Rodney Mariner pointed out to his congregation, there was almost an overreaction. When a Jew kills another Jew, this causes distress: but a Jew killing non-Jews creates panic. More than insecurity is involved. There was the sense that we fail when our neighbours suffer through acts that emanate from our larger Jewish community.

It cannot be stated that we have stumbled from the moral high ground — the murderer and the Kach party which gave him the religious and political structure for that suicidal attack has no moral high ground and Barukh Goldstein does not represent the Jewish community.

The need to distance oneself from that action still dominates British Jewry. There will be a memorial service for the victims at the West London Synagogue tomorrow. Rabbi Hugo Gryn hopes for Palestinian participation. Jeffery Rose, the chairman of the European Board of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, in London, wrote an open letter to Afif Safieh, the head of the PLO delegation to the United Kingdom, in which he expressed "the most profound sympathy for this totally unacceptable act" and sent condolences to the families of the bereaved. Rabbi Jacqueline Tabick, speaking for the Reform and Liberal rabbinate, expressed outrage and pain.

The question has to be asked whether these rabbis represent the congregations, and here doubt creeps in. After the anguish comes uncertainty, and after that fear. In my synagogue and others, concerned parents called to announce they would not send their children to religion school: synagogues suddenly seemed to be likely targets.

A sense of grievance has begun to manifest itself within some segments of the Jewish community. "Did the world cry out when the synagogue in Istanbul was bombed?" I was asked. "Why this concentrated, orchestrated outrage against the action of a single madman?" There is sympathy for the settlers in those areas exposed to constant dangers. Slowly, the British Jewish community begins to fall back into the political and religious factions that often finds it difficult to work together.

Yet something endures after that shattering event. British Jewry is united in the desire for peace in the Middle East and all know that this peace has been threatened.

The one clear lesson that has been taught is that violence and fanaticism can destroy this world. There are fuller synagogues this week where Jews pray for reconciliation and peace.

Dr Albert Friedlander is Rabbi of Westminster Synagogue

Device gets drugs to heart of the problem

BY OUR HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

SURGEONS have for the first time successfully inserted drugs into the heart of a patient with coronary disease.

Norman Coleman, 76, who had angina (chest pain), had a drug-coated device inserted into his coronary arteries at the Royal Brompton Hospital in London.

Dr Nigel Buller, consultant cardiologist, said: "This is the first intra-coronary drug delivery system to be used in man. If it succeeds in delivering high concentrations of the drug locally it will be a very real breakthrough."

The operation involved inserting a wire construction called a stent, which holds the coronary artery open where it has narrowed, allowing the blood to flow. Mr Coleman was the first patient in Britain to be given a new kind of stent coated with a drug that diffuses into the heart.

The advantage of the device is that it can deliver high concentrations of any drug exactly where it is wanted. Many drugs for heart disease taken by mouth or injection cannot be given in doses high enough to be effective because they cause toxic side effects. The device could also be used to deliver powerful cytotoxic drugs direct to tumours in cancer patients, reducing harmful side effects.



£2.6 million fund-raising
ell Alleyne, left, was helped
and job-search facilities

Buoyant sales put three car plants back on full time

By Kevin Eason, motoring correspondent

THREE of Britain's biggest vehicle plants have gone back to full-time working for the first time since last year after an 18 per cent increase in new car sales.

Figures released yesterday showed registrations of new cars at 145,710 in February, 14.75 per cent ahead of the same month last year.

Sales are now up by 17.92 per cent in the first two months, putting the motor industry on target for its best performance for four years.

The revival of UK car sales has proved so strong that Ford has ordered a 60 per cent increase in output at its Halewood plant on Merseyside to 4,000 Escort and Orion cars a week. The company's Transit van plant at Southampton has also returned to full working. The two plants have been on short-time working for the past eight months.

Nissan has restored the night shift at Washington, Tyne and Wear, after drastically scaling down output last November.

Ian McAllister, chairman of Ford of Britain, said yesterday: "Sales demand in the UK has continued to surprise us and is strengthening all the time so far as we can see.

"That has allowed us to review our strategy. The trend of recovery has been a long one now and our calculations tell us that if we continue at this rate, new car sales will hit two million over the next year, the best performance since 1990."

Crucially for Halewood, the Escort was the second-best seller last month to Ford's own Mondeo while the company sold a total of 32,022 cars compared with 29,439 last February.

Sales of UK-made Nissan cars are up in the first two months from 6,455 to 10,340.

There was good news for almost all manufacturers, including Rover, soon to be sold to BMW. Rover sales in the first two months jumped from 38,065 last year to 43,471 while BMW sales were up from 7,242 to 8,473.

The only worry is impending tax increases due in April which could deter buyers and push the industry back towards depression. Mr McAllister said: "No one knows how the tax rises will affect people and what their attitude will be.

"We just hope there is no serious effect to knock us off the course to full recovery."

Almost 15,000 Ford workers at Halewood, Southampton and Dagenham, Essex, have been on short-time since last July when the British motor industry suffered from the recession on the Continent.

With sales down about 16 per cent across Europe, British factories lost orders that could not be offset by the growth at home. Exports of Ford cars from the UK fell from 92,000 in 1992 to fewer than 10,000 last year.

Nissan was also badly hit, asking for hundreds of voluntary redundancies and cancelling its night shifts.

However, the strength of the UK recovery is softening the blow of lost sales abroad although manufacturers warn that they see no revival in Continental sales.

Vauxhall, which relied on exports for nearly 40 per cent of its sales at peak, said yesterday that both its main plants in the UK would suffer from lost shifts during this month.

The plant in Luton, Bedfordshire, which makes the best-selling Cavalier model, is worst-hit with ten shifts to be cut while Ellesmere Port on Merseyside will lose five shifts.

☐ The top ten best-selling cars last month were:
1, Ford Mondeo (11,725 sold); 2, Ford Escort (10,125); 3, Vauxhall Astra (9,090); 4, Vauxhall Cavalier (8,612); 5, Ford Fiesta (8,201); 6, Rover 200 (6,846); 7, Vauxhall Corsa (6,644); 8, Renault Clio (4,431); 9, Peugeot 405 (4,307); 10, Rover Metro (3,595).

Anglers wade in for bumper season

By Brian Clarke, angling correspondent

BRITAIN'S one million game anglers are preparing this weekend for a bumper season — and blessing the wet winter everyone else has cursed.

Enough rain has fallen to keep the rivers of even the North and West, always vulnerable to drought, flowing higher for longer than in many seasons past. The trout-stocked reservoirs of the Midlands are brimming.

The underground aquifers that feed the chalk streams of the South are full. The Test, the Itchen, the Frome and the Avon and all the other classic fly-fishing rivers are assured of healthy flows the whole season through, regardless of what the weather does.

In the Midlands and the South East, lake anglers are hoping to better the series of large fish caught last year. Hanningfield Reservoir, Essex, Rutland Water, Leicestershire, and Grafham Water, Cambridgeshire, surrendered fish in teens of pounds, twice the size of the average salmon.

Biologists believe the reason lies in the summers of three and four years ago. The warm, stable weather produced excellent spawning conditions for many of the coarse fish on which the great trout feed.

It also extended the feeding season of the trout, which normally lose appetite when the water begins to cool. They gorged and grew. In due course, nature will re-exert its balance between predator and prey. Fry numbers will decline and the growth of the big trout will slow.

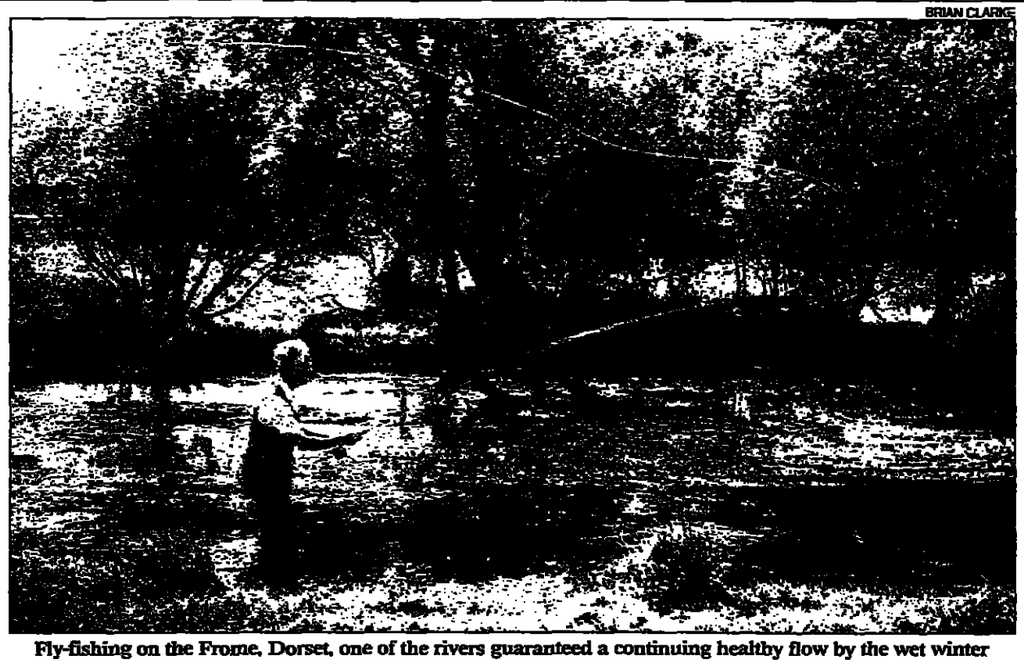
The hardiest of game anglers will take to the water this month. A few are on the water already, fishing for rainbow trout. Those wanting brown trout will have to wait until the middle or end of the month because of bylaws.

Many anglers will miss the official dates. They feel that fly-fishing is a summer pursuit, one at its langorous best when the meadows are rife with flowers and the air hazed with blue. Most trout anglers wait until April, a few iron-willed souls until May. By then the first gossamer flies will be hatching in numbers. Dates circled by bureaucrats are irrelevant in the wild.

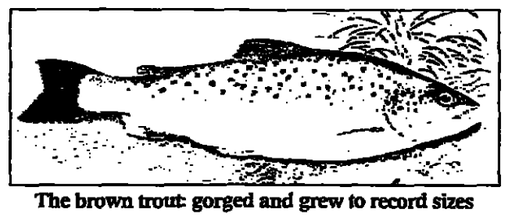
Most anglers will not be looking to rivers for their sport but to lakes. Interest in fly-fishing, once the preserve of the well-heeled and the crafty, has increased enormously. To meet the demand, still waters custom-designed for fly-fishing and regularly restocked have broken out like an aquatic rash across the landscape. Each year brings its additions, some of them enormous. On April 14, Severn Trent opens a 740-acre lake at Carsington, Derbyshire.

Forecast, page 24

BRIAN CLARKE



Fly-fishing on the Frome, Dorset, one of the rivers guaranteed a continuing healthy flow by the wet winter



The brown trout: gorged and grew to record sizes

Leicester Square man refused bail

A 33-year-old man arrested in Leicester Square shortly before the Prince of Wales arrived for a film premiere was remanded in custody for a week on charges of possessing an offensive weapon and threatening behaviour.

Andre DeSilva, from Gravesend, Kent, was refused bail by Bow Street magistrates. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Outside court, Daniel O'Callaghan, Mr DeSilva's solicitor, said: "There is no connection whatsoever between his arrest on the evening of March 3 and the visit by the Prince of Wales to the Odeon Leicester Square on the same evening, and the Crown Prosecution Service have not sought to suggest that the events were related."

Body found

Police fear a double killer is at large after the discovery of a woman's naked body in a lane in Bitteswell, Leicestershire, on Thursday. The woman, in her 30s, had been strangled and was found four miles from where the body of a 20-year-old prostitute was found in similar circumstances in December.

Florida death

The West Yorkshire coroner formally recorded a verdict of unlawful killing on the death of Gary Colley, 34, shot dead by muggers in a highway rest area in Florida last September. Four teenagers have been charged with Mr Colley's murder by Florida police.

Girl's payout

Emma Holmes, 11, who suffered brain damage in a car accident at the age of six, was awarded £919,500 in the High Court in Manchester. Her parents, brother and sister were killed in the collision with a car driven by a 14-year-old.

Appeal fund

The widow of Bill Forth, 34, a police sergeant murdered on duty in Gateshead a year ago, is to receive more than £37,000 donated to an appeal fund.

Keene on Chess

By Raymond Keene
Chess correspondent

Polgar loses

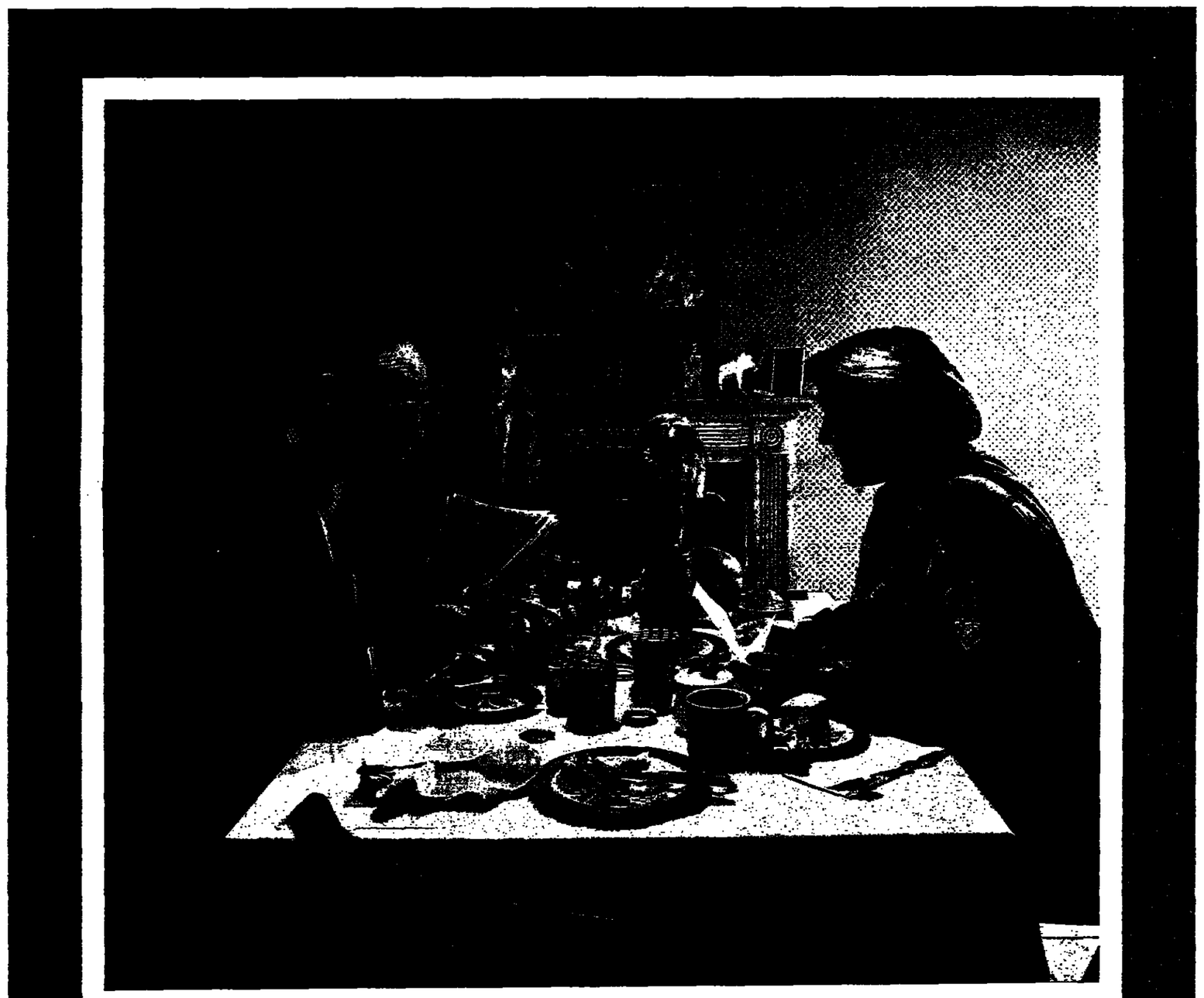
In the first clash between the world champion Garry Kasparov and the Hungarian teenage prodigy Judit Polgar, the world champion emerged victorious in their game from the super-tournament in Linares, Spain. The champion's nerves did not emerge unscathed; there was a time scramble, which Kasparov survived with seconds to spare on move 40. Kasparov missed an easier win with 40 ... Nf2+ 41 Rxf2 Rxf2 42 Qxf2 Qxd1+.

White: Judit Polgar
Black: Garry Kasparov
Linares, March 1994

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	a6
6	f4	e6
7	Be2	Be7
8	0-0	Qc7
9	Qe1	Nbd7
10	a4	b6
11	Bf3	Bb7
12	Kh1	Rd8
13	Be3	0-0
14	Qg3	Nc5
15	f5	e5
16	Bh6	Ne8
17	Nb3	Nd7
18	Rad1	Kh8
19	Be3	Nef6
20	Qf2	Rfe8
21	Rfe1	Bf8
22	Bg5	h6
23	Bh4	Rc8
24	Qf1	Be7
25	Nd2	Qc5
26	Nb3	Qb4
27	Be2	Bxe4
28	Nxe4	Nxe4
29	Bxe7	Rce7
30	Bf3	Nef6
31	Qxa6	Ree8
32	Qe2	Kg8
33	Bb7	Rc4
34	Qd2	Qxa4
35	Qxd6	Rxc2
36	Nd2	N8
37	Ne4	N8d7
38	Nd6+	Nxd6
39	Qxb6	Ng4
40	Rf1	e4
41	Bd5	e3
42	Bb3	Qe4
43	Bxc2	Qxc2
44	Rd8	Rxd8
45	Qxd8+	Kh7
46	Qe7	Qc4

White resigns



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Smith scorns Tory record on crime

BY JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

■ The Labour Leader has set the tenor of the forthcoming elections with a scathing attack on the Government's record

JOHN Smith, the Labour Leader, yesterday set the party's agenda for the local government elections on May 5 by launching a vicious attack on the Tory's record on crime.

Mr Smith dubbed the Tories the "high crime" party and claimed they had taken no effective measures to reduce it. He ridiculed the Prime Minister's suggestion last week that prickly bushes could help to combat crime, and accused the Tories of "failure, incompetence, waste and dishonesty".

He also pointed out that the Tories had voted against a series of amendments in the Criminal Justice Bill that would have helped to prevent crime. "As usual the Prime Minister says one thing and does another," Mr Smith said.

All three main parties plan to make crime and the economy the main issues in the local government elections and the forthcoming by-elections.

The party is expected to hold the by-elections in Dagenham, Barking and Newham North East on June 9, to coincide with the European parliament elections, following Bryan Gould's decision to resign in May.

Addressing Labour's London MPs and councillors in the Festival Hall yesterday, Mr Smith said it was bad enough that the Government had no strategy to tackle crime. "What is worse is that its own actions are contributing to the growth of crime," he said.

Programmes to make cities safer were being cut, the urban programme was being run down, local authorities were cutting youth programmes and mentally ill people were being left to roam the streets, he said.

People were also losing faith in the criminal justice system, the Labour Leader said. Although more crimes were being committed the number of cases coming to court was falling.

The Government intended to scrap the criminal injuries compensation scheme and replace it with a fixed tariff.

The party intended to devote itself single-mindedly to an attack on crime, he said. That meant also focusing on the causes of crime. "Nobody should seek excuses for criminal behaviour. But nobody should deny that poverty, deprivation, neglect and squalor provide fertile soil for crime to flourish."

To loud applause Mr Smith told the conference that the party would not tolerate racism and would make racial violence a separate category of crime.

Mr Smith's speech was dismissed by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, as a smokescreen to hide the fact that Labour was refusing to support the Criminal Justice Bill. "They opposed ending the right to silence. They want to give hardened criminals an extra chance to get off," he said.

MARTIN BEDDALL



John Smith yesterday telling London MPs and councillors of Labour's strategy for the forthcoming elections

Auditor General seeks wider powers

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE head of the National Audit Office yesterday demanded new powers to track down fraud and incompetence following the waste of millions of pounds of aid on the Pergau dam project.

Sir John Bourn's office was the first to disclose last October that at least £56 million of taxpayers' money was unnecessarily lost on Pergau and called for wider access to public money after it is passed to private contractors.

He said yesterday that increased access would be "a valuable addition" in checking where billions of pounds is spent.

The Auditor General recently won Treasury backing for his demands to ensure that private contractors spending public money can be forced to reveal financial details. Currently prevented from demanding access to company records, Sir John described the present limits on his powers as "an oddity".

The Auditor General's report into Pergau last October drew attention to the "unusual funding arrangement" in which British aid loans were made directly to Tenaga Nasional Berhad, the Malaysian electricity company, rather than through the Malaysian government.

Sir John sees himself as something of a troubleshooter whose department saved at least £238 million last year by identifying improved methods of working. Companies have been willing to make their records available for National Audit Office inspection but Sir John is aware of potential problems if his requests are rejected.

He told MPs recently of his worries over rapidly increasing private sector influence in public services through creation of executive agencies and contracting out services. He is particularly conscious of the danger that standards expected of public servants are not instilled in the new entrepreneurial wave of managers.

Although excited by the "galvanising" of public service by private sector skills, he said a steadying hand needed to remain on the tillers of management throughout the country. "If you have the same system lying unchanged for 50 years, you will find fraud and malfeasance. If you have a quick change, you have the same risk."

Pricing claims, page 1

Protester's egg hits Bottomley

TWO women were arrested after Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, was hit by an egg during a visit to a hospital yesterday.

Mrs Bottomley was hit on the back and the egg splashed on to her hair as she walked along a corridor at Trafford General Hospital, Manchester. She appeared unruffled by the incident and after a quick clean-up said: "I am fine." Penny Kay, 51, retired, and Rhetta Moran, 33, a researcher, of separate addresses in Chorlton cum Hardy, Greater Manchester, were bailed after being charged with breach of the peace.

Mrs Bottomley was at the hospital to visit two new units, for elderly mentally ill patients and for day surgery patients, built at a cost of £1.5 million.

Last October Mrs Bottomley was pelted with eggs and heckled while trying to make a speech at the London School of Economics, where she was once a student.

Ms Kay, a former health service worker, said later: "This was a protest against planned hospital closures in the Manchester area."

U-turn on pensions provokes backlash

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR'S decision to abandon its election pledges on the state pension sparked a backlash in the party yesterday.

Donald Dewar, the shadow Social Security Secretary, disclosed on Thursday that Labour intended to drop its pledge to raise the basic pension by £5 a week for single pensioners.

He proposed instead that Labour should provide a minimum guaranteed income for poorer pensioners with most elderly people relying on private provision to boost their resources. Mr Dewar also refused to give a commitment to raise the basic state pension in line with earnings, a previous policy pledge.

Yesterday Bryan Gould, MP for Dagenham who has been a vocal critic of John Smith's economic policy, said it would be regrettable if Labour abandoned its decision to improve the basic state pension and Labour risked losing the next general election unless it was prepared to put forward firm commitments, including a pledge to improve the lot of all pensioners.

In contrast Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead, who has put forward his own proposals for pension reform, said that Mr Dewar's new strategy on pensions would have huge appeal to the electorate and could "massively increase" the number of Labour voters.

Yesterday Mr Dewar admitted that he anticipated a stormy ride over his plans. However, he emphasised that Labour would not allow the basic pension to wither on the vine.

Labour would not be able to make pledges on how much pensions would rise but he hoped that it would reflect increasing national wealth.

Banda turns to Tory spin doctors for help

BY ANDREW PIERCE

PRESIDENT Banda of Malawi, Africa's longest-serving ruler, has turned to the Tories for advice on Western spin-doctor techniques in his country's first free multi-party elections for 23 years.

The official title of President for Life taken by Dr Banda, whose age is given variously between 86 and 93, was abolished in October. He has employed Mark Fullbrook, whose role in George Bush's presidential campaign caused a rift between John Major and Bill Clinton, to advise Malawi's ruling Congress Party in the two-month election campaign. Polling day is May 17.

Mr Fullbrook, who left Conservative Central Office after the general election to set up Parliamentary Liaison Services as an independent political consultancy, will coordinate the campaign with advertising on Malawian radio and newspapers.

The campaign will be staffed by many former Conservative Central Office party agents who have been made redundant. James Pryor, the party's head of presentation, who resigned to work on the South African election campaign for President de Klerk, will join them.

Mr Fullbrook came to the attention of Dr Banda after he masterminded the victorious campaign of the Russian candidate in the Moscow Central seat in last year's Russian elections.

Mr Pryor, who masterminded Tory conference speeches and the party's 1992 election rallies, will provide a similar service for Dr Banda.

SATURDAY 26 FEBRUARY 1994

EDITED BY VIVIEN GOLDSMITH

Fixed-rates r...

Mortgage lenders withdraw or re-price long-term loans after uncertainty over interest rates, writes Vivien Goldsmith

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Auditor General seeks wider powers

By ARTHUR [illegible]
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Militants ambush Nile cruiser as Hebron mosque murders stoke anti-West passions in Egypt

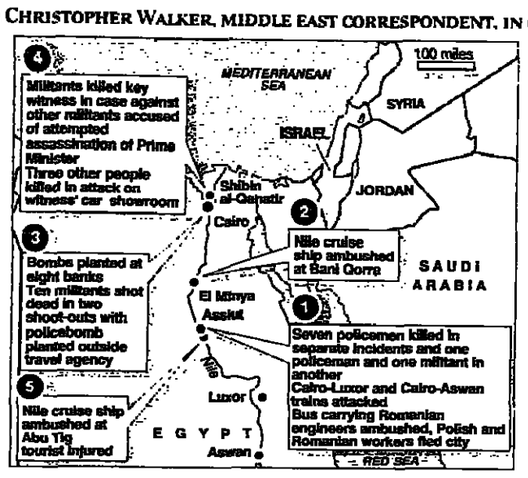
Islamic zealots step up battle against Mubarak

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER, MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT, IN CAIRO

THE two-year-old battle between Islamic militants and the pro-Western government of President Mubarak of Egypt has intensified after the Hebron massacre as extremists capitalise on the wave of emotion sweeping across the Arab world.

A German woman tourist was injured yesterday when militants ambushed a Nile cruiser travelling under police escort in Upper Egypt. In Cairo a new group calling itself the Islamic Brigades to Avenge Palestinian Martyrs gave all Americans 48 hours to leave or be attacked.

Thousands of angry demonstrators tried to march from the ancient mosque of al-Azhar towards the city centre shouting anti-Zionist slogans and stoning the police. Riot squads dispersed them with tear gas. Witnesses said up to 100 people were arrested. Two bombs which exploded outside a travel agency and an office block housing American Express on Tuesday were claimed by the main armed group, El-Gama el-Islamiya, which also warned foreign tourists and businessmen to leave. "These two operations are the beginning of the revenge for the martyrs of the Hebron massacre, in defiance of the repressive regime of Mubarak," the group said. The escalation has coincided with American intelligence warnings about the fragility of the Egyptian regime which have spread alarm in the West and Israel, where Egypt is regarded as the lynchpin of the present relative regional stability. On Wednesday, militants standing trial for the attempted assassination of Atef Sedki, the Prime Minister, condemned Arab leaders from their iron cages, accusing them of remaining idle in the face of "new Israeli aggression".



Chanting slogans against President Mubarak, President Assad of Syria and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, they charged: "They do not abide by God's law and they are not standing by the side of Muslims." Even before the Hebron bloodshed, police had adopted a shoot-to-kill policy against the militants. This began on February 1 when seven Islamic suspects were killed in a flat in the rat-infested Cairo slum of Al-Zawia al-Hamra. "The situation seems to be very tense and it looks like we are heading for a more violent phase," Mahmoud Qandil, of the Egyptian Organisation of Human Rights, said. Saadeddin Ibrahim, a Cairo sociologist, observed: "The dynamics of the confrontation have changed. Unlike the situation of the past two years the state is acting now." The escalating violence has been matched by an Islamic cultural offensive aimed at Egypt's secular society. Parallel to this has been an adroit move by middle-class Islamists to seize control of syndicates at the hub of the medical, legal and engineering professions.

As in Iran before the 1979 overthrow of the Shah — an example being cited with increasing frequency among worried diplomats in Cairo — illegal tape cassettes are increasing Islamic fervour. Among the most popular are the sermons of the exiled blind Shaikh Omar Abdel Rahman, spiritual mentor of the Gama. "The rulers of Egypt have sold their religion, conscience and their people to the devil for the pleasures of life," he declares on one, while on another the shaikh tells his followers: "To those lamenting what has happened to tourism I say that it is sinful, the lands of Muslims will not become bordellos for sinners of every race and colour." Unlike Algeria, where the new President is inching towards a dialogue with the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front, Egypt has ruled out religious participation in a much-delayed "national dialogue" provisionally scheduled for next month.

"The plan is false, a real dialogue involving everyone is the only chance of a solution," Mahfouz Azari, a lawyer defending Islamic militants, claimed.


Police arresting one of the Cairo demonstrators protesting yesterday against the Hebron mosque massacre

NEWS IN BRIEF

Brooklyn gunman 'linked to terrorists'

New York: Rashad Baz, 28, the Lebanese man charged with shooting four Hasidic Jews on Brooklyn bridge last Tuesday, may be part of a larger terrorist group that has been under surveillance for several months by the FBI and Mossad, the Israeli intelligence agency (Ben Macintyre writes).

Mr Baz and his two alleged accomplices belong to a militant Muslim fundamentalist enclave which has been under scrutiny "for some time", ABC television reported, quoting law enforcement and intelligence sources. The arsenal of weapons confiscated from Mr Baz's apartment was reportedly intended for future terrorist attacks.

Mr Baz, who faces 15 charges of attempted murder, has also been linked to an international drug ring with possible connections to Hezbollah terrorists in Lebanon, the New York *Daily News* reported. Police said an investigation into drug smuggling, in which Mr Baz is named, included "a vague reference" to the Islamic group.

Mr Baz has no criminal record, but neighbours say he is a known drug-user. He is understood to owe $4,705 (£3,150) in parking fines.

Bombers convicted, page 1

Tension high

Jerusalem: Four Palestinians were killed in violence in the occupied territories, and security forces here briefly closed off the Wailing Wall, Judaism's holiest site, as tensions remained high a week after the Hebron mosque massacre.

Liner rescue

Helsinki: A cruise liner on its way here from Estonia ran aground in icy waters off Finland's southern coast but all 1,100 passengers and most of the 150 crew were evacuated to another liner. There were no known injuries. *(Reuter)*

Rushdie threat

Oslo: Police questioned and released Ibrahim Yildiz, head of a Muslim organisation in Norway who threatened to try to kill author Salman Rushdie if he came to a freedom of expression conference in Stavanger in September. *(AP)*

Kurd MPs held

Ankara: Police detained five radical Kurdish MPs facing charges of crimes against the state. Three others were already in custody after the True Path party of Tansu Ciller, the Prime Minister, voted to remove their immunity. *(Reuter)*

Freedom award

Middelburg: The Dalai Lama, Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, has been named in this medieval Dutch city as the 1994 winner of the Roosevelt Four Freedoms Award for his struggle for freedom for his Himalayan nation. *(AP)*

Sweeteners

Turin: Two French estate agents arrested at an Italian hotel in a corruption case revealed that alleged bribes were listed in their company accounts under the heading of "boxes of chocolate", judicial sources said. *(AFP)*


Spielberg: accused of historical lapses

Holocaust survivors find film 'too rosy'

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

STEVEN Spielberg's acclaimed film *Schindler's List* has received a mixed response in Israel, where Holocaust survivors and experts have accused him of using more Hollywood than history in recounting how Oskar Schindler saved 1,200 Jews from the death camps.

One Israeli citizen in 17 remembers the Holocaust and viewers emerged red-eyed from the opening night performance on Thursday, attended by Ezer Weizman, the Israeli President, and Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister. But the film's authenticity had earlier been questioned after a preview screening for some of those Schindler saved.

"The movie was well done and is authentic, but it is nothing like what really occurred," said Hana Rojansky. "The movie is too rosy in comparison to what actually happened. Apparently [Spielberg] did not want to horrify too much." Josef Bau, 73, whose marriage at the Plaszow work camp in Poland is portrayed in the film, praised Spielberg's directing abilities, but shook his head over the film's historical accuracy.

Few Israelis need any reminding about the details of the Holocaust. There are 290,000 Holocaust survivors living in Israel, including 150 saved by Schindler, none of whom was consulted in the making of the film.

Moshe Bejski, who worked as a draughtsman in Schindler's enamelware factory and knew him up to his death 20 years ago, said he did not recognise the film's hero.

Although the film is likely to be a box-office success in Israel, it is likely to face further criticism. Tom Segev, a Holocaust expert, accused Spielberg of dressing up *Schindler's List* as a documentary by filming in black and white and dubbed it "Holocaust Park", a reference to Spielberg's blockbuster *Jurassic Park*.



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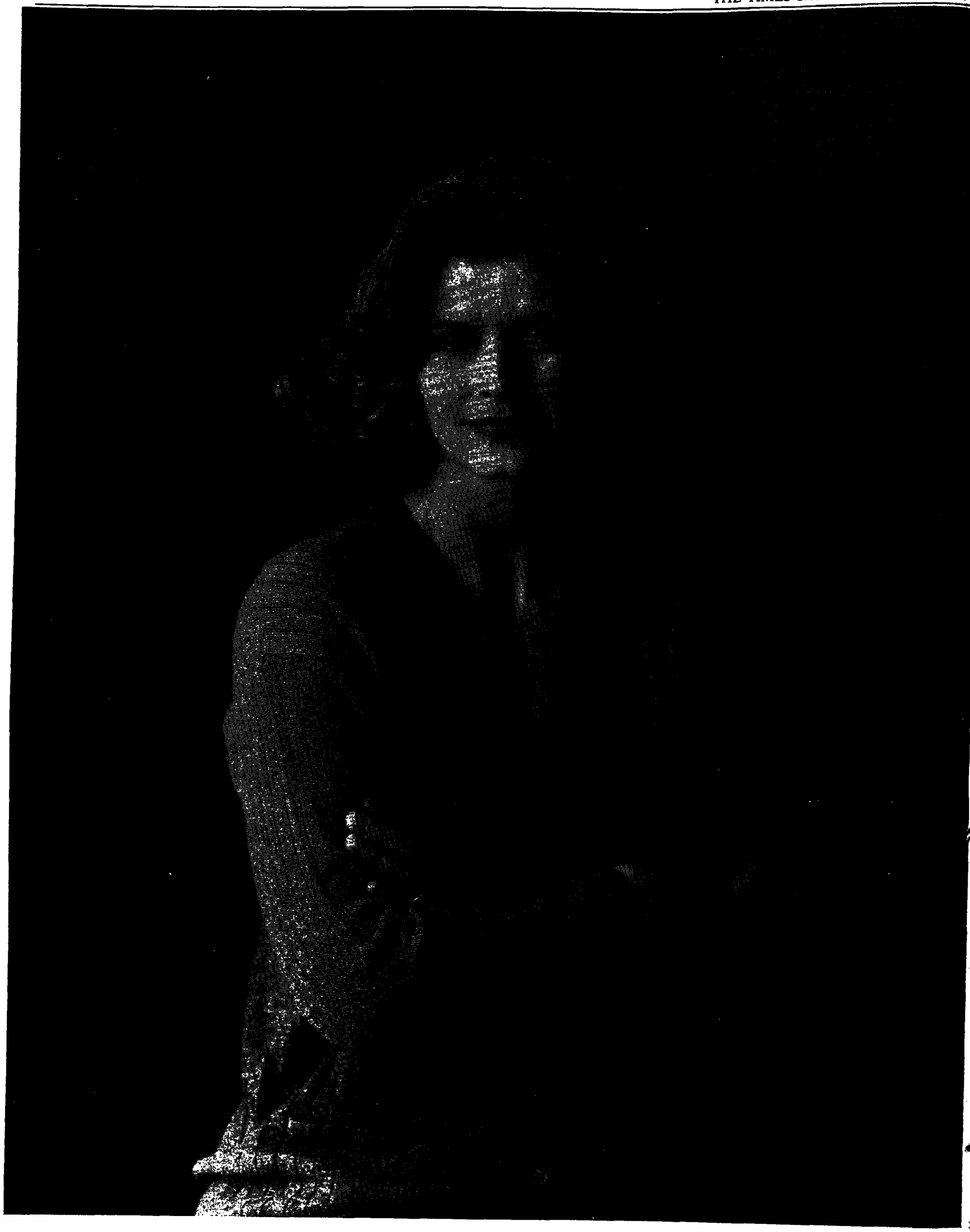
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German MPs press Bonn to explain role in Libya gas project

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

■ US intelligence reports say that the poison gas factory at Tarhuna, 40 miles southeast of Tripoli, is a virtual copy of Rabta, where German involvement embarrassed the government in the 1980s

GERMANY plunged yesterday into a controversy over its involvement with Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's plans to build an underground poison gas factory in Libya.

Spurred on by disclosures on German television, parliamentary deputies demanded that Bonn come clean on the issue. The investigative programme *Kennzeichen D* claimed that German companies, and foreign subsidiaries based in Germany, had supplied construction equipment, detailed design plans, laboratory technology and vital components for the underground factory in Tarhuna, 40 miles southeast of Tripoli.

Dr Bernd Schmidbauer, intelligence co-ordinator of Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, admitted that German equipment appeared to have been used in the construction of the plant but said there was not "a single piece of evidence that German companies were involved in the construction of the complex". He claimed that the government had warned German companies against participating in the project in 1992. State investigators have been studying the books of suspected companies and are trying to discover whether the equipment was supplied directly by German companies or through foreign middle men. "The government information is contradictory and it is trying to play down German involvement," Norbet Gansel, the Social Democratic security expert, said yesterday.

The matter is acutely sensitive for the German government. German companies were accused by the United States during the 1980s of helping to build an "Auschwitz in the desert" at the Rabta chemicals plant in Libya. US intelligence services said that more than 100 tonnes of the poison gas sarin were produced there. The Libyans said the Rabta plant, known as Pharma-150, produced only pharmaceuticals. The German authorities eventually accepted the US rather than the Libyan description of the factory and arrested two German executives, including Jürgen Hippenstiel-Imhausen. Last year he was released from jail, but investigators are still searching for much of the DM250 million (£147 million) which flowed from Libya to German and other entrepreneurs.

Tarhuna is said by US intelligence to be a virtual copy of Rabta. German involvement, however, is much more restricted than in the case of Rabta. But it remains a serious embarrassment for German-US relations and may trip up the government's attempts to liberalise Germany's strict arms exporting rules, a reform discussed yesterday in parliament. Libya says that Tarhuna is part of a huge irrigation project.



Anne Oblin showing off some of her "mythical" exhibits at the Paris Farm Fair yesterday

Snails achieve stardom at their own pace

Paris: For thousands of French visitors, the stars of this week's Paris Farm Fair were not prize bulls or fat pigs but snails in a wooden box. "The snail is a mythical animal. It's very close to the people. Everyone has a story of their grandmother raising snails or a memory of playing with them as a child," said Anne Oblin, who runs an organisation that promotes snail farming. As the traditional Burgundy snails have become increasingly scarce in the wild, the organisation seeks to persuade gourmets to consume home-reared snails rather than cheaper imported species. *(Reuter)*

European deputies wield new veto power

FROM JAMES LANDALE IN BRUSSELS

LEGISLATIVE history was made in Brussels yesterday as the European Parliament exercised its new powers to block decisions made by European Union ministers.

Members of the Parliament and ministers formed a "conciliation committee", which allows MEPs to reject outright proposals from the Council of Ministers. The use of the committee, which was created by the Maastricht Treaty, marks a small but significant shift in the balance of institutional power within the European Union towards the Parliament.

The conciliation committee was set up to hammer out MEPs' and ministers' differences over the Union's huge research budget for the next four years. The MEPs want the ministers' spending plans of £9 billion raised by £300 million. Britain, France and Germany all oppose any increase.

There are also disagreements about how the money should be shared out.

Britain taps into Moldavia's stock of wine treasures

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN CRICOVA, MOLDAVIA

THE remnants of Reichsmarschall Hermann Goering's wine cellar lie today at the bottom of a converted stone quarry in Moldavia. The bottles of wine were a small part of the loot brought back from Germany by Soviet forces at the end of the Second World War.

Some of the bottles, such as the Château Latour 38, are worth fortunes. Every year the Cricova winery, where the collection is stored, sell off a few of them to bring in some extra cash. Since the decline of the former Soviet market, times are not good for Moldavia's wine industry.

Goering's bottles, unhappily, lie beside wines of poorer quality. In the Vinotek, a sort of mock classical underground shrine in the heart of the Cricova hill, his collection is given due respect, but the endless tunnels which surround them largely contain various types of "Soviet champagne", a sickly brew with which no decent wine would wish to be associated. The place is worth seeing rather than for the alcohol it produces. The underground quarry has more than 130 miles of tunnels which are still growing as more marlstone is taken out for building projects in the nearby Moldavian capital of Kishinev. The roads of the underground winery are large enough to take small lorries.

The winery employs 1,000 workers, with 12,000 more in its vineyards. Last year, it produced more than 8.8 million gallons of wine and eight million bottles of champagne.

The rows of barrels stretch for hundreds of yards and the conveyor belts carry an endless stream of bottles. It is, however, depressing that so much effort should go into producing a undistinguished such as "Soviet champagne".

Fortunately for Moldavia, Soviet rule did not destroy its ancient winemaking traditions, which are being revived with the help of Western experts. Some of the results are good: "Dionis", a wonderfully smooth Pinot Noir, won a gold medal at Vinexpo '93 in Bordeaux.

Valentin Bodiul, the director of Cricova, proudly claimed that his Pinot Noir "has set a world standard for this kind of wine". He has just signed a contract with Sainsburys to sell 220,000 gallons of Moldavian red wine in Britain.

For Moldavia, wine is a vital economic commodity. Having lost most of its industry to a Moscow-backed Russian secessionist movement in Transdnestr, it is now a mainly rural country. To break into Western markets and earn desperately needed hard currency, it must find a way of selling its agricultural products, and this means above all its wine.



Goering: his vintage booty worth a fortune

Britain does deal with Belorussia

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN and Belorussia have signed two important economic agreements to encourage and protect British investment in the former Soviet republic, a move that coincided with a cut-off by Russia of gas supplies because of the failure by the Minsk government to pay its gas debt of $240 million (£160 million) to Moscow.

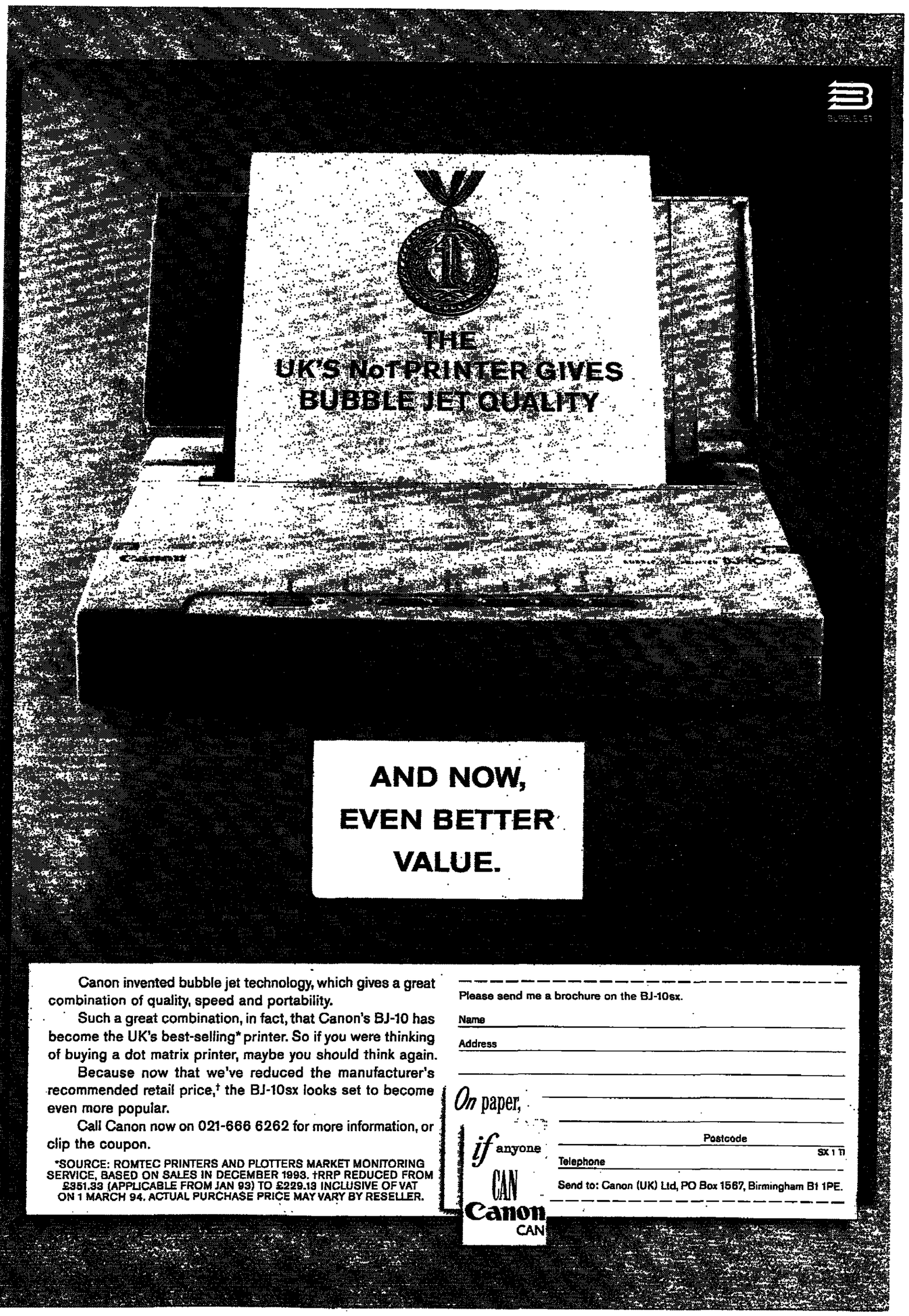
Vladimir Radkevich, the Belorussian Economics Minister, yesterday shrugged off the Russian move. "This is the third time they threaten us," he said. "We have always found a compromise in the past." But he called Moscow's move "strange" in light of the forthcoming economic and monetary union between the two countries. Agreements, he said, had now been drawn up and only awaited signature.

Mr Radkevich this week signed agreements with Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, on economic cooperation, and to guarantee the protection of foreign investments. These should lead to a rapid expansion of trade and investment, he said. There were already 35 joint ventures. Mr Radkevich had found during his four-day visit great interest among British firms in doing business with Belorussia, and held talk with leading companies.

☐ **Washington:** President Clinton was yesterday expected to announce a two-fold increase in US aid to the Ukraine to about $700 million (£470 million) a year if President Leonid Kravchuk persuades his parliament to ratify an agreement to eliminate Ukraine's nuclear weapons.

☐ **Paris:** France, Germany and Poland have agreed to hold their first joint military exercise as part of intensifying defence cooperation between the European Union and central European countries wanting to join the EU. *(Reuter)*

☐ **Brussels:** The Czech republic will sign a partnership deal forging closer military links with Nato next week, the alliance said in a statement yesterday. *(Reuter)*



UN resolve challenged after reconnaissance pinpoints heavy weapons

Defiant Serbs move guns to exclusion zone

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

SERB forces are refusing to move or surrender six cannons they brought into the heavy-weapons exclusion zone around Sarajevo on Thursday in violation of Nato's ultimatum and the United Nations truce agreement, a UN officer confirmed last night.

A unit of 12 armed French soldiers are at the site, 900 metres (just over 900 yards) inside the 12-mile zone. The local Serb commander insists the six 122 mm howitzers are outside the heavy weapons exclusion zone. According to UN and Nato maps they are within and subject to air strikes. So far, however, the UN is allowing the violation. "It is just 900 metres and they are not within firing range of the city," José Labandiera, the UN spokesman, said. The UN and the Serbs have been at a stand-off since the troops arrived at the site yesterday morning. "They have to move them 900 metres or to take them to a collection point," Major Labandiera said. "So far they have not given us a final answer."

Air reconnaissance detected the heavy weapons, north of Sarajevo, early in the evening of Thursday. Apparently they had been moved into the zone earlier in the day. A senior UN officer contacted the rebel Serb military command about the infraction on Thursday night, but they had not been moved by the time that the French arrived yesterday at 10 am.

Similar weapons pounded the Bosnian capital for 22 months until two weeks ago. UN officers believe the deliberate violation was a test of their resolve. One report indicated that Nato warplanes flew low over the area to encourage the Serbs to cooperate with the UN and surrender the weapons. On February 9, Nato issued an ultimatum to Serbs besieging the Bosnian capital that by February 20 they would have to move their weapons outside a 12-mile zone around Sarajevo, surrender them to UN troops, or have them bombed by alliance warplanes. On the same day, the UN brokered a truce agreement with the Serbs and the Bosnian government based on the Nato threat. In the following weeks, Sarajevo has been quiet and peaceful for the first time since the war began in April 1992. However, in recent days the besieging Serbs have been testing the UN's resolve. Sniping and exchanges of riflefire have increased. There have been a few instances of shoulder-fired rockets and artillery shells fired on the city. Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose, the United Nations commander, has played down the incidents for fear of undermining the confidence the success of his peace accord brought.



Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose, head of UN forces in Bosnia, visiting the British base at Vitez yesterday

Rose attacks UN, page 1
Simon Jenkins, page 18

UN trawls for crack troops to police Bosnia

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE search for more troop contributors for Bosnia was continuing at a frantic pace at the United Nations yesterday, but with the United States, France and possibly Britain unwilling to meet the new target of 10,650 reinforcements, officials were spreading their net as widely as possible.

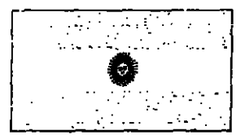
United Nations military sources said one option was to transfer more of the troops serving in the UN protected areas in Croatia into Bosnia, replacing them with fresh soldiers from other countries. UN commanders need troops to establish buffer zones, man checkpoints, operate confidence-building patrols, guard weapons collection points, establish rapid deployment forces in areas of ceasefire violations, and operate radar monitoring equipment.

There are already 31 countries contributing troops to Bosnia and Croatia, but it is the British, French, Canadian, Spanish, Dutch, Belgian and Nordic units that are the most highly qualified and professionally trained. Others are regarded as less able to cope with the range of missions demanded in Bosnia.

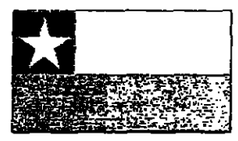
Officials admit that they are concerned about troop quality as well as numbers. Some of the units in Bosnia, such as the Egyptians, Jordanians and Malaysians, are often poorly equipped and ill-prepared to operate in the rough terrain and cold weather. National rivalries can also strain relations. Although the UN has welcomed the arrival of Russian troops to Serb-held sections of Sarajevo, officials say privately that co-ordination is flawed. There is no Russian officer at the UN operational headquarters in Sarajevo.

UN military sources said it was time for some of the countries that signed up to Nato's *Partnership for Peace* scheme to come forward. Some, such as Poland and the Czech Republic, are already serving in Croatia.

One of the dilemmas for the UN is that some countries that have offered troops are incapable of doing the job. Pakistan has offered 3,000 troops but they do not have the equipment or the training.



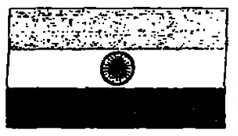
ARGENTINA already has a substantial force in the former Yugoslavia. An infantry battalion of 938 men is based at Grubisno Polje in sector west of the UN military command in Croatia. The troops could be switched to Bosnia but they do not have the experience of the Nato units operating there. If sent, they could find themselves alongside British troops.



CHILE has not sent any troops to the former Yugoslavia. It has an army of 54,000, which is adequately equipped and trained, but not for operating in cold conditions. Chile's involvement in United Nations peacekeeping missions has been minimal so far. The country has 20 observers working with the UN in El Salvador and 52 in Cambodia.



AUSTRALIA is not represented in Bosnia or Croatia and, yesterday, after questions were raised about the country's possible involvement, the option appeared to be ruled out. One dilemma for Australia is that the country has a small army of only 28,600. United Nations military sources said that they did not expect an offer of Australian troops.



INDIA has sent no troops to the former Yugoslavia. Its hesitation may be driven by the announcement by Pakistan last year that it intended to send 3,000 soldiers to Bosnia. India has a huge army of more than one million men. Recent contributions to United Nations peacekeeping missions have included more than 1,300 troops in Cambodia.



CANADA is heavily involved in the former Yugoslavia, with about 2,000 troops in the region, about 560 at Gracac in Croatia's sector south and the rest in Bosnia. There have been calls for more Canadian troops, but Canada has an army of only 20,000 and is probably overstretched. An infantry battalion is based at Visoko, northwest of Sarajevo.



JAPAN currently has only one observer serving with the United Nations Protection Force in the former Yugoslavia. Until now there has been no suggestion from Tokyo that it would be willing to contribute troops. Its restraint may reflect experience in Cambodia, where several of its troops involved in the UN peacekeeping mission last year were killed.

Doubts cast on radar system

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE reliability of British-made Cymbeline radar deployed around Sarajevo to monitor ceasefire violations has been questioned by United Nations peacekeepers and a defence expert.

The system, which might be used when deciding whether to launch a Nato air strike, is suspected of recording phantom mortar fire in the Bosnian capital, according to a senior UN peacekeeper.

The Cymbeline system calculates where a shell has been fired after pinpointing two positions for its trajectory. But the radar was designed for use on a conventional battlefield with a single, clearly-defined enemy, and not in mountainous terrain with changing front lines.

Because rival militias in and around Sarajevo are sometimes just yards apart and form a circle around the city, some experts suggest that Cymbeline may find it difficult to judge precisely who fired a mortar. The trajectory of some shells fired from the hills and mountains around the Bosnian capital could also distort information from the radar readings, experts added.

In Sarajevo, Major Rob Annink of the Netherlands said questions remained about Cymbeline. Last weekend mortar fire was recorded but no trace of damage was found on the ground.

"UN military observers dispatched to these sites found no guns or reports of detonations," he said, and there had been "no reports or complaints" about mortar fire from either the Serbs or Muslims. "We have to see if the radar is functioning well, there is a question mark," he said.

Chris Foss, military technology editor of *Jane's Defence Weekly*, said: "Cymbeline is not the ideal solution here. This is a fairly old system, about 25 years, and although it has been upgraded it is not being used in the role for which it was designed."

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Clinton aide slips up over Whitewater

■ President Clinton is said to be furious that his top aides have succeeded in putting the Arkansas banking affair back on the front pages of every newspaper

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

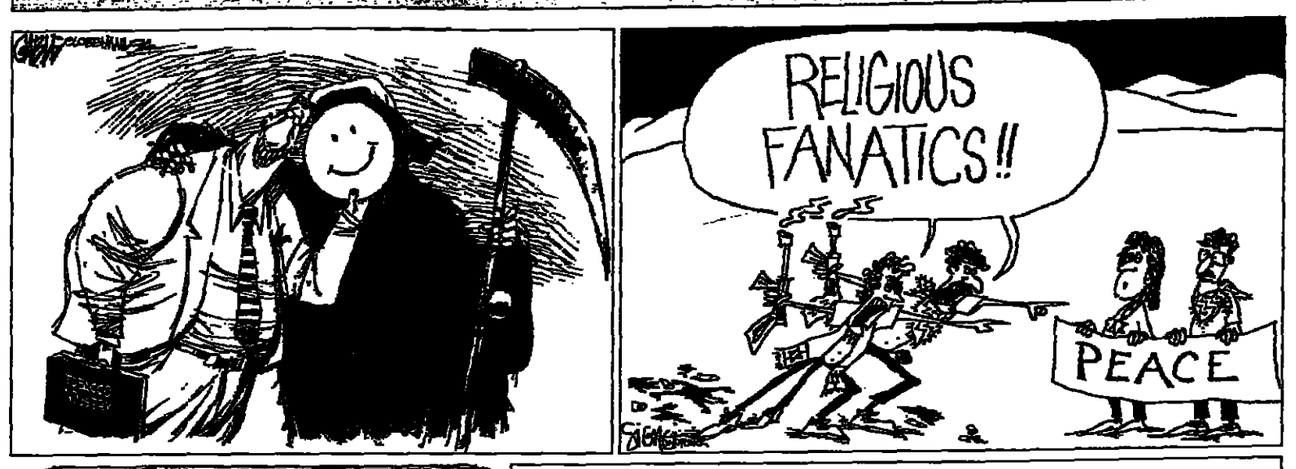
BERNARD Nussbaum, President Clinton's White House counsel, was in grave danger of becoming the Whitewater scandal's first major victim yesterday as the White House was hit by a fresh barrage of charges that it has been engaged in a cover-up.

Officials did little to dampen intense media speculation that Mr Nussbaum would be forced to resign after the disclosure that he received improper briefings from Treasury officials on a supposedly independent criminal investigation into the bankrupt Arkansas bank owned by Mr Clinton's former business partner. Publicly, Mr Clinton said he wished the meetings had not occurred. Privately, he was said to be furious that top aides had again succeeded in putting the Whitewater affair on the front pages.

Compounding Mr Clinton's discomfort, the Senate's 43 Republicans have now pledged to block the confirmation of his nominee for a top federal banking agency, and possibly his legislative agenda, until the Democrats agree to congressional hearings on what Robert Dole, the Republican leader, yesterday termed an "ethics meltdown". Chances of success for the President's health reforms have also taken a dive, with Democratic congressional leaders for the first time conceding that major elements of the health-care plan may have to be jettisoned.

The New York Times meanwhile reported yesterday that a junior employee of Hillary Clinton's Rose law firm has told a federal grand jury that he was ordered to shred documents from the files of Vincent Foster, a former partner who became deputy White House counsel but killed himself last July. Mr Foster had done Whitewater-related work for the Clintons. Robert Fiske, the special prosecutor, is examining the circumstances of his apparent suicide as part of his wider investigation of the Whitewater affair and has subpoenaed all related papers.

THE WORLD IN CARTOONS



An anti-smoking blast from Gable in the *Boston Globe and Mail*, top left; Signe's comment on Middle East extremists in the *Philadelphia Daily News*, top right; anti-Americanism from Javad in Tehran's *Abrar*, bottom left; Russians in Bosnia by Coco in Taiwan's *China Times*



Wei Jingsheng: back in jail after brief freedom

China takes trade risk by seizing dissident

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

CHINA has thrown down the gauntlet to the United States on the matter of human rights by detaining Wei Jingsheng, the country's most famous dissident, while John Shattuck, the American Assistant Secretary for Human Rights, is in Peking. Mr Wei was seized yesterday morning and telephoned an associate to say he would be unavailable "for several days".

In the past week Mr Wei told journalists that security police had warned him that he was risking his liberty by continuing to speak to the foreign press and to issue statements on human rights. These are Mr Wei's trademark. He was originally imprisoned for calling for democracy in China and for describing Deng Xiaoping, the nation's paramount leader, as a tyrant.

Mr Wei spent more than 14 years of a 15-year sentence in prison. He was released last September, six months early, apparently to help China's bid for the 2000 Olympics.

Last week Mr Wei had lunch with Mr Shattuck, who is in Peking to plead with China's leaders to make what one American official called "a grand gesture" that would make it possible for President Clinton to renew China's "most favoured nation" (MFN) trading status in June, which could bring $20 billion in customs concessions.

A few days ago Mr Shattuck spelt out how little China need do. "What we are talking about is a direction in human rights, an indication that over the course of a year that some concrete, achievable and reasonable steps are taken that constitute ... progress." But the Chinese Foreign Ministry insists that, while it is prepared to discuss human rights, linking them to economic considerations has "done nothing but create obstacles to their promotion".

SOUTH SUDAN

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

URGENT AND PUBLIC LETTER

GENOCIDE, ETHNIC CLEANSING and DISPLACEMENT OF THE BLACK POPULATION

The horrifying war being waged by the Army of the Sudan and their Militias against black civilians has now lasted more than 10 years with unbelievable cruelty. It has caused:

- more than 1 million people to die
- more than 3 million to be displaced
- more than 100,000 children and women to be enslaved
- complete distruction of hundreds of villages, millions of cattle and millions of tons of crops.

The Army of the Khartoum Government and the Militias are now starting to bomb the refugee camps all over the South, destroying the food and medicine (Europeans and Americans have sent and paid for this) and killing an unknown number of persons.

The disregard for HUMAN RIGHTS is at least as severe as it is in Ex-Yugoslavia or as it was in Somalia. The aim of the Government of the Sudan is to exterminate or expel the black minority in the South.

This genocide has to be stopped by the International Community

We believe that the South Sudan must be granted immediately its INDEPENDENCE with guaranteed borders.

WE DEMAND:

1). Stop war at once and bring about a swift PEACE.
2). THE WITHDRAWAL of all the Kartoum Troops from the South.
3). Repatriation of all black people to their villages.
4). Referendum in the South amongst the black inhabitants.

All these points have to be fullfilled to put pressure on the Khartoum Government.

ACTION

★★★★★

Please write to the following persons, expressing your dismay at the conflict in the South Sudan and the genocide against the black population. Ask them to stop the horrifying and homicidal war even by a military control if necessary executed by the UN, USA, or EC.

1). John Major
Prime Minster
10, Downing Street
LONDON SW1A 2AL UK

2). Bill Clinton
President of the USA
The White House
USA - WASHINGTON D.C.

International Society for the South Sudan

White House diet provokes head chef to throw in the kitchen towel

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

A STRONG smell of burnt ego is wafting from the White House kitchen. Pierre Chambrin, the head chef, has announced that he has had enough of cooking for the First Family and will leave at the end of the month.

"I have a different concept of the food," he said darkly. "I'd rather not go into it."

Why exactly M Chambrin, a classical French chef employed by Barbara Bush four years ago, has decided to roll up his apron is not immediately clear. Insiders speculate, however, that a combination of President Clinton's taste for junk food and the First Lady's modern culinary notions have proved too much for his Gallic sensibilities.

Having announced that she is on a "health kick", Hillary Clinton has banned smoking in the White House and recently brought in Dr Dean Ornish, a heart specialist, to lecture kitchen staff on low-fat vegetarian meals. M Chambrin goes some of the way with the First Lady, favouring organic food, buying eggs that are only a few hours old and periodically serving turnips and other health foods. He has spent the past 23 years in America and claims that he is "more American than French", but apparently not American enough.

Traditional French cuisine has dominated the presidential table since the days of Jacqueline Kennedy and, until the Clintons arrived, menus were always in French. But Mrs Clinton intends "to showcase the best of American cuisine", Neel Lattimore, her spokesman said.

In a recent interview Mrs Clinton said she liked M Chambrin's cooking but added: "I want the White House to be especially noted for its American cuisine. And we are also trying to make everything that the White House serves healthier."

Last year M Chambrin told a Paris newspaper: "President Clinton likes lighter food than President Bush. Less cream, less butter." But the President is also known to relish hamburgers, fried chicken and corn-dogs (deep-fried hot dogs), dishes to make any self-respecting French chef cry in his bouillabaisse.

M Chambrin says he is leaving voluntarily, but the Clintons have been under pressure to employ an American chef since they arrived in Washington. Soon after his inauguration the President received a letter from Chefs Helping to Enhance Food Safety, signed by 63 American masters of the gastronomic arts, asking him to stop eating junk food and employ a homegrown chef dedicated to "seasonality, ripeness and simplicity".

As he prepares to pack up his utensils, M Chambrin is refusing to elaborate on the reasons for his going, telling *US Today*: "The chef should be taking care of his kitchen instead of taking care of the press."



Clinton: he relishes American junk food

Streisand art auction makes almost $6m

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN NEW YORK

THE cream of Barbra Streisand's Art Deco and Art Nouveau collection — including lamps, paintings, a Cartier clock and two classic cars — sold this week for $5.7 million (£4 million) at Christie's, the auctioneers.

The auction was continuing yesterday with a sale of less expensive items such as "middle-tier" furniture and memorabilia, said Caroline Young, a spokeswoman for Christie's.

The highest-priced item among 178 sold on Thursday was a 1932 Art Deco painting of Adam and Eve by the French artist Tamara de Lempicka, which sold for $1.98 million, a record for the artist.

The sale total was more than $2 million over Christie's projections, even though a rare Tiffany lamp, expected to fetch up to $1 million, sold for only $717,500. A Cartier jade clock made in in 1927 in a Shinto temple gate design, sold for $332,500, more than double the estimated price. A 1906 Tiffany cobweb lamp that Streisand paid $55,000 for in 1979 sold for $717,000, slightly under the estimate made before the sale. A Silver Ghost Rolls Royce from 1926 sold for $52,900 and a 1933 burgundy Dodge convertible went for $42,550. The prices include the auction house's commission. All the buyers were anonymous, Christie's said.

"The sale fulfilled our highest possible hopes," said Christopher Burge, Christie's chairman in America. Streisand, 52, one of Hollywood's highest-paid stars, has said she was selling the collection to simplify her lifestyle. Streisand, who rose to fame in *Funny Girl* and has more recently turned to directing such films as *Yentl* and *The Prince of Tides*, has been collecting decorative art objects for more than 30 years.

The singer told Christie's in a telephone call from her home in Beverly Hills that she was thrilled with the results of the sale. "The highlights for me were the Lempicka and the Cartier clock. This sale meant a lot to me, as it represented more than 30 years of collecting, beginning with my first purchase at age 18." Her Art Nouveau style home is now done up in the Arts and Crafts style and she donated a Malibu home with Art Deco furniture to a non-profit group.





Wei Jingsheng: back in jail after brief freedom

China takes trade risk by seizing dissident

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

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Last week Mr [illegible] lunch with Mr [illegible] in Peking [illegible] China's leaders to [illegible] one American official's grand gesture [illegible] make it possible for President Clinton to renew China's "most favoured [illegible] (MFN) trading [illegible] which could [illegible] in customs [illegible]

A few days ago [illegible] spelt out how [illegible] do. "What we [illegible] about is a direct [illegible] rights, an indivisible [illegible] the course of a [illegible] concrete, achievable [illegible] tangible steps [illegible] constitute [illegible] the Chinese [illegible] means that, when [illegible] to discuss human [illegible] ing them to [illegible] eration but [illegible] but create [illegible] promotion".

ost $6m

[illegible] CALAIS [illegible] FARES

£58

£60

[illegible] 64 [illegible]

[illegible] eaflink

Ghetto clergy in Jamaica fall victim to violent creed

■ Falling living standards and rising crime after free-market reforms have destroyed confidence in last year's election winners, who promised Jamaicans prosperity

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN KINGSTON

THE murder of a Roman Catholic priest, Father Ron Pieters, has highlighted a national crime wave and the dangers faced by many priests who serve in the Jamaican capital's sprawling ghettos.

Fr Pieters, 38, was found dead in January after a five-day search. His badly decomposed body was discovered with shot wounds to the head and chest in a makeshift coffin near a school here.

"It really brought it home to us: the work that we are doing isn't easy. It's got so violent," said Father Richard Albert, a priest in Riverton City, one of the most violent neighbourhoods.

Less than a year after P.J. Patterson, the Prime Minister, was elected on a platform of free-market reforms and promises of prosperity, falling living standards and rising crime and drug abuse have destroyed public confidence. Businessmen are leaving Jamaica in search of more stable Caribbean bases, and the island's vital tourist industry looks threatened. Last month two Americans were attacked by two gunmen and robbed while on a raft trip down the Rio Grande.

Already this year there have been 106 murders. Last year there were 657 killings, making it the bloodiest year since 1980 when more than 800 died in election violence. Observers say that many rural killings are not reported.

The culture of violence is evident in the Top 20, where popular songs include "Murderer," and "Cold Blooded Murder". But as a sign of just how bad living conditions are, some singers of Jamaican Dance Hall — a controversial rap music notorious for its violent and pornographic lyrics — have begun to clean up their acts. Dance Hall singer Shabba Ranks, one of the island's most successful artists since the death of Bob Marley in 1981, has recently changed his tune. His latest song, "A Family Affair", includes the lines: *Stop the bloodshed, Stop the killing out there.* A fast-talking, streetwise New York-born priest, Fr Albert, has parishioners who are some of the country's most violent men, the drug gang "dons".

Priests like Fr Albert can be drawn into gangland conflicts, as they are often needed to mediate. He has tried to persuade gang leaders to surrender to police. Fr Pieters may have been the victim of similar efforts. The gangs prosper by smuggling cocaine to America and Europe.

Fr Albert has warned the government that it faces more violence on the streets. "The free market has created an even wider gap between the rich and the poor," he said. "There are social pressures waiting to explode. Everyone wonders why people aren't throwing bombs already."



Marley: his successors are changing their tune



Opposition Liberal Democrats dozing in the Japanese parliament yesterday

Hosokawa reforms pass into law

Tokyo: Reforms to clean up Japan's corrupt political system became law yesterday, ending a six-year debate that helped to topple two Prime Ministers, Toshiki Kaifu and Kiichi Miyazawa. Morihiro Hosokawa, who took office last August promising to pass the reforms or resign, said the package represents "a major step towards the attainment of new, responsible politics". Since the package had attained the approval of the powerful lower house, the final upper house vote took only a few minutes. Ironically, the session coincided with the sentencing of Toshiyuki Inamura, 58, a former Liberal Democrat Environment Minister, to three years' jail and 300 million yen (£1.9 million) in fines for tax evasion. *(AP)*

Trade row, page 25

The Big Chill.



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THE TIMES

NEWS IN BRIEF

Somalis attack Italian embassy

Mogadishu: Up to 30 Somali gunmen attacked the Italian Embassy in Mogadishu yesterday, and soldiers inside killed at least one Somali when they returned fire, military officials said. The Italians, scheduled to pull out along with other Western peacekeepers before the end of this month and evacuate their embassy, drove off two assaults by the gunmen who quickly vanished when US and Italian helicopters flew over the compound.

Near the southern Somali port of Kismayu, rival clan militias skirmished while fighters allied to General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, the warlord, closed in around the disputed area. *(Reuter)*

Noriega guilty

Panama City: Manuel Noriega, Panama's former dictator, has been convicted in absentia of murdering a major who led a 1989 coup attempt against him. Noriega is serving a 40-year sentence in Miami for drug crimes. *(Reuter)*

Moi backed

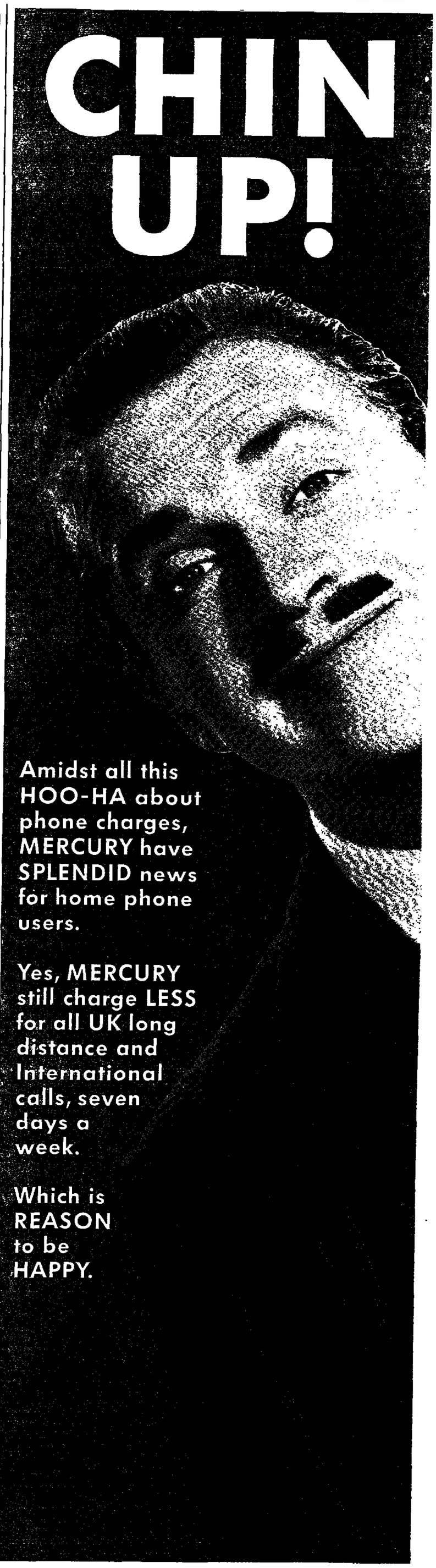
Nairobi: President Moi of Kenya has won a by-election in Lugari, where voters were split in the 1992 general election. Apili Wawire of the ruling Kenya African National Union (Kanu) won the seat by 1,000 votes. *(Reuter)*

Miners return

Sydney: Australia's 20,000 coal miners are to return to work after a week-long strike over a price cut given to Japanese steel mills which the workers said would mean job losses. The government ordered coal industry talks for March 14. *(Reuter)*

Brazil to help

Windhoek: In the wake of Namibia gaining control of Walvis Bay, a deep-water port formerly a South African enclave, Brazil agreed to help Namibia to develop a navy. *(Reuter)*



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Western civilisation faces disaster in competing against low-wage economies, **Sir James Goldsmith** warns

Free trade, up to a point

What an astounding thing it is to watch a civilisation destroy itself because it is unable to re-examine the validity, under totally new circumstances, of an economic ideology.

You would have thought that most people could spot the winner in the following contest: two enterprises compete in the same marketplace with the same products, both have access to identical technology and capital, but one employs labour ten times cheaper than the other. That describes the forthcoming competition between the British economy and those of the newly emerging countries.

This puzzle, believe it or not, is too difficult for the Government, the Opposition and the élites. So they obfuscate by saying that it does not really matter whether we lose because losing will allow us to start a completely different competition which will be much better for us. According to them, we should be willing to abandon the traditional industries which supply a large part of the nation's employment and move on to completely new activities which will create general prosperity.

It is on the basis of this reasoning that British and European industry will be forced to enter into an impossible contest, in which it will fail. The results will be devastating.

Let me explain. All of a sudden, nearly four billion people have entered the world economy including those from China, Indochina, India, Bangladesh and the nations which used to be part of the Soviet Union, those of Latin America, and so on. Overall, they offer a vast and fast growing reservoir of underemployed, who, when they do find work, receive wages as much as 90 or 95 per cent less than those in Europe. That did not matter very much when these nations, usually for political reasons, kept themselves to themselves. But today their politics have changed and they have joined the world economy. As a result of the communications revolution and the elimination of exchange controls, technology and capital can be transferred to them instantaneously. And this is the moment which we have chosen to accelerate, through Gatt, the movement towards global free trade, a system whereby everything can be manufactured anywhere in the world to be sold, without barriers, anywhere else.

Imagine the position of a normal British manufacturing enterprise producing normal products and employing a reasonable labour force — industries such as glassware, furniture, textiles, clothing, appliances or porcelain. Usually such companies will employ people whose total wage cost can represent up to 30 per cent of turnover. So a company that has annual sales of £500 million and is finding it difficult to make a satisfactory profit, will be able to transform its profit and loss account by simply transferring its manufacturing to a low-cost country. By maintaining only its head office and marketing organisation in the UK, it could save more than £100 million per annum. Graver still is the fact that if it fails to transfer its production but instead decides to compete against imported products manufactured in low-cost countries, then it is doomed to failure. No matter how much it restructures and



Sir James Goldsmith: trade should be free of restrictions only within regional associations

"downsizes" (the fashionable euphemism for job cuts), it cannot possibly compensate for labour costs which are 90 per cent cheaper.

Let me take you through a number of the standard rebuttals put forward by the globalisers:

● "The growth of employment in the service industries will compensate."

Wrong. Already the big employers in the service sector are transferring their back offices to low-cost countries. By renting space on a communications satellite, relatively cheaply, they can keep in touch with offices in distant lands. Indeed, a customer can already telephone a number in the United States and be transferred instantaneously, and without his being conscious of it, to an office in Bombay. The result is a 90 per cent saving for the service company.

There are some services, such as health and education, which cannot be transferred abroad but surely, we are able to understand that we cannot survive exclusively on activities which involve spending, however necessary they may be. We must earn before we spend.

● "The high-tech industries will grow and we will prosper."

These industries might be able to compete because they employ very few people and so the cost of labour is not significant to them. But that, precisely, is the problem. If they employ so few people, how can they provide employment to the nation?

● "You underestimate the capacity of a modern economy to create new industries producing new jobs."

In France, Maurice Allais, the Nobel Prize-winning economist, recently calculated that during the past 20 years the French economy, measured by its GNP, has grown by 80 per cent. During the same period, under-employment had grown by 800 per cent. And that was before the recent Uruguay Round of Gatt, promoted by John Major as an economic panacea, and which, of course, will accelerate job destruction.

● "We will enrich the workers in the newly emerging countries and they will buy our products."

The World Bank, in a report published in September 1992, answered that one: "The levelling of wages will be overwhelmingly downward due to the rapid growth rate of under-employed populations in the Third World."

● "You forget that Britain exports more per person than any other country."

They forget that Britain runs a massive trade deficit, so it imports even more. That can only get very much worse with global free trade, as products which, traditionally, had been manufactured at home are produced abroad.

● "So you are for protectionism and you do not believe in free trade."

Wrong. I believe that free markets are absolutely necessary to improve efficiency, control prices, enforce innovation and encourage choice. But free markets must be composed of nations with economies which are reasonably homogeneous and which are willing to accept some financial disciplines. Otherwise the "levelling of wages will be overwhelmingly downward" and the free market will be corrupted by competitive devaluations. We need regional not global free trade. The regions can enter into bilateral trade agreements when it suits them.

● "But labour costs less in Britain than in other European countries."

That statement demonstrates that we have forgotten the purpose of the economy. In the great days of the United States, Henry Ford stated that he wanted to pay high wages to his employees so that they could become his customers and buy his cars. Today we are proud of the fact that we pay low wages! We have forgotten that the economy is a tool to serve the needs of society and not the reverse. As Aristotle wrote in his *Ethics*: "The end of the medical art is health and that of economics is wealth."

A direct consequence of all this will be the re-emergence of deep divisions within society. There will be those with savings, who will benefit. They can transfer their capital anywhere in the world and receive a better return as low cost employment improves profits. The larger companies can transfer their production and, as we have seen, massively increase their earnings and capital value. But their ex-employees will suffer as will the smaller businesses which, unable to transfer their production, will go to the wall. The whole balance between capital and labour will be shattered as the cost of labour drops to reflect the new supply provided by nearly four billion people willing to work for a pittance. What an irony that just as socialism has been discredited, the misinterpretation and misapplication of liberal ideas will create a new class war.

● *A series of papers on this topic given at a conference, World Trade after Gatt, organised by Taskforce Communications last week in London, will be published shortly*

DIARY

Pricey Prince

LORD GOWRIE was in royal form this week at an exhibition in which works by the Prince of Wales took pride of place. The lithographic reproductions of his watercolours, coinciding with the launch of the princely postage stamps, quite took the noble lord's fancy at The Gallery in London's Cork Street.

"They are very nice watercolours in our landscape tradition," he said of the pictures of Windsor Castle, Balmoral Castle and Wensleydale. The Duchess of St Albans was equally effusive. "They have an ethereal quality," she said. But in certain quarters, jaws were dropping at the price of £3,250 each for limited editions of 295. In the same gallery a Picasso engraving from *L'Age du Soleil*, in an edition of 114, was on sale for £1,000.

"Obviously they are way, way above the price one would normally pay for such work," says Caroline Wiseman, contemporary art specialist and director of the Wiseman Originals gallery. "They are double the price of a Hockney. I may want to be made a Dame one day but I must say that by anyone else these works would cost only £250." David Case, of Marlborough Fine Art gallery, says: "You're paying a lot for the name."

But all proceeds will go to charity and the gallery's manager, Sibilla Weiller, defends the works, which the Prince has signed "C". She says: "It's the first time that he has sold his work signed. He is an established artist and the framing is also important."

● *The Duke of Edinburgh, who has a reputation for acerbity, is to be the guest of honour at a charity premiere of an aptly named film in London in May. The title is* Grumpy Old Men.



To see or not to see

ZOE Wanamaker is steeling herself for a comprehensive display of madness on the site of the Globe Theatre next month when schoolchildren from England, Poland, Denmark and Germany perform liberal interpretations of *Hamlet*, which mentions their countries. Alastair Tallon, of the Shakespeare Globe Trust, founded by Wanamaker's late father Sam, says: "We have got a jazz version, and the most common theme is the madness of Ophelia." A proposed *Danish interpretation, The Punk of Denmark*, will not be staged.

Secret's out

THE APPOINTMENT yesterday of David Spedding as head of MI6 could not be more appropriate given his educational background. Spedding went to the Middle East Centre for Arabic Studies (MECAS) in Shemlan in the mountains outside Beirut, known throughout the Arab world as the "spy school".

Britain's consistent denials that the establishment plays any role in espionage will be subject to considerable scrutiny in a new book by one of its former lecturers. "*A Nest of Spies . . . ?*", *A history of MECAS (Shemlam and Jerusalem)* by Leslie McLoughlin will be launched in London on March 17, and many a shifty-looking alumnus has been invited.

● *An unfortunate incident at London's Cockpit theatre at the opening night recently of* Paddywack, *a play about the problems of Irish immigrants. Its Irish playwright Daniel Magee was punched on the nose by thugs in the foyer.*

Wrong sign

EUROSCEPTICS were baying for blood when they spotted the draft minutes of a European Parliament meeting on Monday. They appeared to show that five Tory MEPs attended a meeting when the election manifesto of the Christian Democrats was voted through — a manifesto which, counter to Tory Party policy, calls for a single currency and a united Europe.

As today's letter in *The Times* from the leader of the Tory MEPs, Sir Christopher Prout, indicates, the suspicions were unfounded. But the real story will undoubtedly enrage the sceptics even further. As is the custom in the European Parliament, at least some of the party's MEPs signed on at the entrance on Monday morning to qualify for their daily expenses allowance of £135. They did not hang around for either the debate or the vote.

"A little embarrassing," concedes Tom Spencer (West Surrey). "That's how you claim your attendance allowance," says Bryan Cassidy (East Dorset and West Hampshire), who confirmed he'd signed on.

Prout cannot recall if he signed on or not, but he was back in London for lunch.

● *John Smith was delivering a workmanlike speech on crime to Labour's London councillors yesterday in the Royal Festival Hall when there was a small explosion immediately behind him. Smith ploughed on regardless. A camera bulb had "popped", showering the platform with slivers of hot glass which set fire briefly to the carpet. One of the few times he's been credited with setting the world alight.*

More British soldiers will be an incitement to endless conflict, not peace, in Bosnia

Targets for a Balkans bullet

Send more troops! The cry of the frontline general down the ages is heard once more. A week ago it was 3,000, then 5,000, now 10,500, or as General Sir Michael Rose put it yesterday morning: "The more the merrier." Publicly denying a commander in the field more men must be the hardest decision for a prime minister to make. Denying them to General Rose, the ablest man yet sent to Bosnia, will be even harder. America, France and, so far, Britain are gritting their teeth to say no. Yesterday, Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, appeared to wobble. He should not. No more troops.

Last week saw foreign intervention gather alarming speed. President Clinton decided that where Lord Carrington, Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen had failed, he could succeed. He believes that their failure was due to a lack of military muscle. He has that muscle. He used it two weeks ago in the bombing threat against the Serbian guns and last week in shooting down four Serbian warplanes. It felt good. Now he will raise the stakes. He will be the peacemaker. Bosnia, we are told, has moved to the top of the President's agenda.

Some types of death are said to follow a set pattern: a struggle, a gasp, a rattle, then silence. "At the still point of the turning world," wrote Eliot, ". . . there the dance is." Likewise the deadly dance of intervention. The pattern seems horribly inevitable. Politicians and the media keep a relentless beat. Governments protest: "No more troops, no more mediation." Yet

Simon Jenkins

they are mesmerised. They cannot stop. All the posturing, all the bombast and humbug and desperate, painful charity are mere noise. Last month's mortar that killed 68 in Sarajevo market has become a ghostly echo of Princip's 1914 bullet.

Mr Clinton had begun by sabotaging the recent Croat-Serb *rapprochement*, which both sides were beginning to acknowledge out of sheer exhaustion. It was the work of Serb and Croat leaders locally, was upsetting the Bosnian Muslims and had no Great Power sponsor. That sort of peace, a cynic might say, puts world statesmen out of business. It threatens the most gilded of closed shops.

Instead the State Department flew Croat and Muslim leaders to Washington and there concocted a Croat-Muslim confederation within Bosnia. The chief selling point of this statelet to the Muslims was that it notionally pushed the Serbs from some 20 per cent of the land they currently occupy. As a wider selling point it was one in the diplomatic eye for the Russians. The plan neatly pre-empted Moscow's bid for an international peace conference on Bosnia. It also made the European Union's long mediation look even more sickly.

This is the first "American-brokered" deal for Bosnia. Mr Clinton's prestige is behind it. He told John Major last week, and tells every nervous congressman and senator, that he has made no commitment of ground troops. But suppose his peace deal begins to crumble? Suppose the Russians somehow up the stakes? Bosnia is now "top of the agenda". Might

LUC DELAHAYE/SIPA PRESS


Bosnian Serbs welcome Russian United Nations troops, but their presence could prolong the war

America's commander-in-chief not feel obliged to send troops, when there is another atrocity on television and the taunts from Britain and France get more shrill? Bosnia is now big diplomacy. More is at issue than peace within its borders.

But back to those troops. The United Nations, we must recall for the umpteenth time, is in former Yugoslavia to assist in the supply of humanitarian aid to victims in a civil war. Some argue that this is not a civil war. It is aggression by Serbia and Croatia against the infant Bosnia. Even were this a sensible definition of the conflict, it does not alter the reason why UN troops are there. Nobody initially believed that outsiders had any place in fighting this war. Everybody declared such involvement would be mad. The shooting down of four warplanes last week may have been covered by a UN resolution. But it had nothing really to do with humanitarian aid.

General Rose does not want more troops to keep aid convoys flowing. Sarajevo, like most cities under prolonged siege, has found ways of supplying itself and its people are not starving. The troops are wanted to secure ceasefires. They are wanted to push back sieges round other towns, such as Tuzla and Maglaj. They are wanted to impose a UN-brokered peace on every enclave. They have received their first shot of that seductive narcotic, air support. They are unlikely to resist asking for more — or being given it unasked.

There are two ways of viewing such troops. The first is that they are vital cement for the ceasefires. Without them, the country cannot build a lasting peace. They are the guarantors of safe havens, the masterbuilders of reconciliation. The second is that what they do will end up being the opposite. They relieve exhausted local commanders of the need to keep discipline and make compromises face-to-face with their enemies. As so often with external intervention — Lebanon, Northern Ireland, Cyprus — peace becomes just a sullen stand-off. It cannot be imposed but must emerge from the logic of war. The agents of war must themselves be the agents of peace.

I take the second view. But even on the first, more troops should not be sent. They will be drawn into wider confrontations, hobbled by ever more acrimonious superpower diplomacy. Their mere presence is an incitement to escalation and the taking of sides. The division of territory will become more not less controversial. Ever more troops will be demanded and sent. Bosnia could keep half a million occupied for a lifetime.

This is exactly the risk the American plan now proffers. It appears even more fanciful than its predecessors, and more provocative. If it starts to fail, the president will come under intense pressure to assist it militarily. Russia will be under no less intense pressure to help the Serbs resist. Somebody should stand behind the leaders of both countries, night and day, whispering "Vietnam" and "Afghanistan" in their respective ears.

In a doubtless influential article in *The New York Times*, the American strategist Albert Wohlstetter has pushed the Washington plan to the next point on the ratchet. He wrote that putting the new federation "in a position to defend itself against Serbia would require only a transient use of allied ground forces". Those American ground forces were needed to deter an escalation in Russian support for Serbia. The arms embargo should be lifted. (Muslim troops would incidentally be freed to open up new fronts against the Serbs.) This is madness. "Only a transient use of ground forces" might be the epitaph on a myriad soldiers' graves. Do Americans no longer read history?

Professor Wohlstetter is the Dr Strangelove of the new American power projection. During the Soviet threat, that projection was needed to meet might with might, to sustain a balance of nuclear terror. Under the new American superiority, every foe is merely another a Saddam Hussein: one big punch and he is (almost) finished. Thus the Bosnian Serb army is dismissed as a wretched, undisciplined rabble. It can be pushed down with a feather. So was General Aideed's. So once was General Giap's. Such comparisons may seem glib. But what other argument is to hand?

Nothing would do more to boost the militancy of the Serb army than a Croat-Bosnian spring offensive. Nothing would do more to tighten its moral hold on its new Russian friends. Nato spokesmen last week derided Russia's sabre-rattling in Serbia and foreign minister Vitali Churkin's warning of "all-out war" if America escalates the conflict. Spokesmen say that Russia has done the right thing at Sarajevo and anyway needs to keep in the West's good books. Russian realpolitik would not risk the reformt movement for an East-West confrontation in a far-off land.

I am sure Princip thought the same when he pulled the trigger in Sarajevo. Chaos theory got the better of common sense. In this latest overseas adventure, the Americans are relying on philanthropy and enlightened self-interest keeping the upper hand in the Kremlin. Such gullibility would be bizarre, even if intervention might bring peace to Bosnia. Since it will not, the risks being taken are astonishing. We are all dousing ourselves in petrol and searching round for a match.

We should get our troops out of Bosnia and let the Bosnians seek, find and keep their own peace.

oldsmith warn

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PROFOUND JUDGMENT

How the law lords tipped Britain's constitutional balance

Britain may now have, for the first time in history, a constitutional court. The House of Lords, in its robust decision in the *Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) Case*, has ruled that aspects of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 are incompatible with European Community law. It has, in effect, struck down as "unconstitutional" an Act of a Parliament which is still believed — in some quarters more than in others — to be "sovereign".

Alfred Venn Dicey, whose Victorian jurisprudence has nourished generations of lawyers and lawmakers, would not be amused. Sovereignty, in the Diceyan sense, means that Parliament has the right to make or unmake any law, and that no body has the right to set aside a statute. But membership of the Common Market, as it then was, changed matters radically: Dicey's view now looks quainter by the day. The European Court of Justice (ECJ) in Luxembourg may rule that the legislation of member states violates Community law. Its abundant jurisprudence demonstrates that it has often done so.

But the issue of greatest constitutional significance is the role of English courts. Until the revolutionary *Factortame Case* — where the Divisional Court suspended the operation of an Act of Parliament while the ECJ ruled on the substantive question — the courts have always been faithful to a Diceyan approach. But by its methods in the *EOC Case*, the House of Lords has given Britain its first taste of a constitutional court. The significance of its decision is great.

The case — the most constitutionally intrusive to date — was about equal opportunities for the sexes. The principal issue of substance was whether the Act discriminated indirectly against women. In a nutshell, it made it more difficult for part-time workers, than those who worked full-time, to acquire rights to redundancy payments and compensation for unfair dismissal. This, in itself, is unobjectionable, and is a common feature of the labour law in many countries. But, since the overwhelming majority of part-time workers in Britain are women, the EOC sought to challenge the statutory provisions as discriminatory.

It fell to the Secretary of State to convince the court that the pay practice, which applied independently of a worker's sex but in fact affected many more women than men, could be justified on "objective economic grounds". He failed to do this. And this is where the radical heart of the decision lies: the question, unlike that in *Factortame*, was not merely a textual one. In the *EOC Case*, the law lords had to measure the validity of the legislation by reference to its social and economic impact. Its decision was as much about "legality" as about "rationality". In examining this dimension, using techniques essentially alien to the English judicial tradition, the law lords were acting as nothing short of a constitutional court in the American manner.

Of great import, too, was their decision to accord the EOC *locus standi*. Until now, only parties whose individual rights were alleged to have been infringed have had standing. The *EOC Case* is the first in which a party — here, a pressure group — whose own rights have not been affected, has been granted standing in judicial review proceedings.

This opens up the possibility, which many would regard as alarming, of Acts of Parliament being subjected to "trial by judicial review" by pressure groups of all descriptions, such as the Commission for Racial Equality, Child Poverty Action Group, various trade unions, Greenpeace, and even the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

There is need for a full public discussion of these issues, as even the Divisional Court can now, if it is so minded, rule that an Act of Parliament is incompatible with Community law. The repercussions of this on the traditional constitutional balance are obvious. In any other society, such constitutional "revision" would be a subject for heated debate. Its significance must not be lost on Britain's citizens and its Parliament.

GREAT GAME GOES ON

Spooks enter the era of accountability and lobbying

The codename "C" and the tradition of writing memos in green ink may remain, but the pen has been handed on to a much younger man. The new chief of Britain's foreign intelligence service, MI6, is to be David Spedding, still only 50, and currently deputy to the retiring head, Sir Colin McColl. He inherits an organisation that has proved extraordinarily resilient in the face of changes in the world and in its role.

Much of the credit for that resilience must be given to Sir Colin. With the end of the Cold War, MI6 might have been expected to suffer cuts in staffing similar to those faced by the armed forces. The Soviet threat, after all, had faded and the former Soviet satellite countries were keen to swap sides as soon as the West would have them. But, with less trouble than expected, MI6 managed to persuade Government that the practice of spying would be as necessary now as ever.

In some areas MI6 merely had to follow the market. The Soviet Union may no longer exist, but Russia and its neighbours are politically and economically unstable, and still possess nuclear weapons. Just as worrying has been the potential diaspora of weapons, technology and scientists to nations that would like to join the nuclear and biological club. The prevention of proliferation is now one of the main aims of Western intelligence services, and has been made harder with the end of the Cold War and the resulting surplus of weapons of mass destruction.

In other areas, MI6 has seized new responsibilities that used to be the preserve of police and customs. Drug smuggling, organised crime and money laundering all now come within MI6's purview. By widening the service's scope, Sir Colin has managed roughly to maintain its size; it has suffered no more than other government departments in the recent public spending squeeze.

None the less, 120 redundancies are in progress, not just at the lower levels. Mr Spedding inherits an organisation beset by some grumbling. The average age of directors has fallen under Sir Colin, and there are officers in their early fifties who have been passed over and may be forced to retire unwillingly at 55. Sacking spies can be a tricky job, which must be handled with tact and generosity if they are *not* to become disaffected and potentially disloyal.

Mr Spedding will also be running a different type of operation. Not only does MI6 now officially exist at last; it will soon be subject to statutory oversight from a committee of parliamentarians and to a complaints procedure run by outsiders. MI6 is keener than might have been expected on the change. The committee will give it an alternative outlet for its views which will be particularly useful if it feels that Government has been ignoring vital intelligence or areas of concern.

So the new chief enters not just the age of accountability, but of lobbying too. He has a good base from which to begin. His links with the American intelligence services are stronger than the political relationship that arches over them. His officers will doubtless be formidable lobbyists for the Great Game that must go on.

FELINE FABLE

Even the death of a cat can make a moral for man

What a piece of work is a cat! How elegant in motion, how fastidious in habit, how patronising to the people it puts up with! Fond human bipeds imagine they own cats, and play infantile games of cat and pounce with their ungregarious lodgers, without realising that it is their cats who are humouring them by playing games. Tiffany, the ten-year-old Persian mix who survived for 41 days after the Los Angeles earthquake, only to die yesterday after being resurrected, was a heroic example of cat's old sermon to man.

When the earth suddenly moved last January, she hid in the garden shed, confirming for a while one of man's thousand feline proverbs — the one about a cat having nine lives — and perhaps also the catphrase about enough to make a cat laugh.

Tiffany was eventually found, self-possessed, though reduced to skin and bone. She was purring, for cats are the only animals apart from opera singers to sing their pleasure and relief. The animal psychologists explained Tiffany's incredible journey back to her brief ninth life as an example of the stubborn feline will to survive. Catty cynics may suspect that Tiffany, like anyone of any ambition in Los Angeles, merely had a good press agent.

Cat is by far the oldest domesticated animal. It is found mummified in Egyptian tombs, and was worshipped there as the cat-headed goddess, representing the sun, because cat likes to bask in the warmth. Romans represented their goddess of liberty with a symbolic cat at her feet, because no animal is so bolshy. What other animal than cat is sly enough to be deemed a manifestation of Satan and the familiar of witches?

But cats are not just pretty faces and fur. Claw and tooth, cats are the most efficient killing machines yet produced by evolution over millennia. They are the only creatures apart from humans to kill for fun, and to display a sense of humour.

A dog may be man's best friend, but he is a bouncing hearty incapable of irony or introspection. Only a dog would be silly enough to try to swim the Channel, as an American labrador is training for this summer. Prudent cat may like fish, but prefers not to get its paws wet, so becoming another example to man as the poor cat in the adage.

From the dawn of prehistory, humans have needed to find animal models and anthropomorphic metaphors in nature to explain their mortal predicament. Because of their opacity and self-sufficiency, cats are best at playing the part. Medical statisticians claim to have established that cat-owners are less liable to heart attacks than others, because their blood pressure is lower. They probably learn from their cats not to take the strains and stresses of life too seriously, not even an earthquake. Tiffany, by her life and death, was just the latest example to man of cat as a parable of endurance and making the best of a bad job.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Immunity orders past and present

From Mr George Devlin

Sir, Government officials have long since used public interest immunity certificates to suppress material evidence for the defence from juries and the courts (letters, February 24, 28, March 3).

In the Guinness case, for example, John Redwood, MP, as parliamentary under secretary of state for corporate affairs, signed a PII certificate on November 17, 1989, calling for notes of a meeting on January 30, 1987, between the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Crown Prosecution Service and the Department of Trade and Industry inspectors appointed to investigate the affairs of Guinness plc to be withheld from production as evidence. This had the effect of concealing that those prosecuting authorities had decided to use the DTI inspectors as their evidence gatherers and to withhold evidence from the police, who were then precluded from enquiring into the affair until May 5, 1987.

In my view, irrespective of Scott, a separate public enquiry should be called to investigate the circumstances surrounding all other PII certificates issued by the Government or its ministers.

Yours sincerely,
GEORGE DEVLIN,
3 Mansfield Street, W1.
March 3.

From Mr John Wadham

Sir, The evidence that government ministers have given to Lord Justice Scott seems to agree on at least one point. They have all said that it is for the court to weigh up the conflicting claims and to balance the need to avoid the disclosure of sensitive documents against the need to ensure that justice is done.

The involvement of the court is an essential safeguard, as much in civil as in criminal cases, and provides some justification for the Attorney-General's opinion that ministers could have a duty to sign PII certificates — a view which I do not share. It is particularly frustrating to see this reason being used regularly in evidence to Lord Justice Scott whilst at the same time having to listen to the Government's lawyers arguing exactly the opposite in another court.

Liberty, which acts directly for clients in certain test cases involving civil liberties, is currently representing a former diplomat, Mr Andrew Balfour, who claims unfair dismissal by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (reports, September 11 and December 10, 1993). In order for Mr Balfour to receive a fair trial, we believe that he needs access to certain documents relating to the work of the Secret Intelligence Service. Three PII certificates have been served to prevent an industrial tribunal ordering this disclosure.

The Government's lawyers have argued successfully that where a certificate is based on issues of national security and is lodged in a civil case, the courts have no role in carrying out this balancing exercise. Mr Balfour's request for these documents has thus been dismissed by an industrial tribunal, the Employment Appeal Tribunal and the Court of Appeal: the certificate seems to be something like a trump card, giving the Government, usually one of the parties in the case, complete control over the disclosure of such documents.

We are now seeking leave to appeal in the House of Lords. Whilst Mr Balfour is not facing the loss of his liberty, his case does represent the loss of the job he held for 20 years and the consequent loss of his reputation. The certificates in his case will prevent the tribunal being given a full explanation of how Mr Balfour came to suffer such a humiliating dismissal. Perhaps the Attorney-General can explain this inconsistency to our client.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WADHAM (Legal Director),
Liberty (National Council for Civil Liberties),
21 Tabard Street, SE1.

Facts, myths and the truth of history

From Canon Vincent Strudwick

Sir, William Rees-Mogg's article, "History as heartless bunk" (February 28), provides an attractive illustration of the "myth" of history with Britain as its centre. All the history we receive comes through such myths, and it is important that the historical subjects and incidents which Rees-Mogg describes should continue to be presented.

However, I was heartened to read that the new curriculum, if adopted, will also enable pupils to study "at least one ancient civilisation outside Europe" (report, also February 28). This will give an opportunity for gaining knowledge and insight which will help students to enter into other people's "myths" and enable a more critical appraisal of our modern life and culture.

All this will apparently be done with the total amount of time allocated to history being cut by more than one fifth; this, we are told, will ensure that more time is given to the teaching of English, mathematics and science. Vital though these "core skills" are, history is one of the subjects which enable people to gain an understanding of their identity and construct a framework in which to use such skills. If we accept the idea that history is a babble of voices which needs to be interpreted, then surely we should give *more* time to study and evaluate it, not less.

Yours faithfully,
VINCENT STRUDWICK
(Principal),
Oxford Ministry Course,
Diocesan Church House,
North Hinksey, Oxford.
March 1.

From Mr Edward Armitage

Sir, Would history teachers be outraged if I suggested to them that they are teaching their subject the wrong way round?

Instead of starting at some arbitrary point, say 55 BC or George I, and proceeding from there in the vague direction of today, without ever reaching within 50 years, or, often, even 200 years, of today, they should begin with yesterday and then proceed to last year and then last century and so on.

Children are always interested more in what their fathers and grandfathers did than in what the Romans did and history would be better taught with that in mind.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD ARMITAGE,
11 Cambridge Road,
Ely, Cambridgeshire.
March 1.

From Mr W. H. Saumarez Smith

Sir, Lord Rees-Mogg instances the signing of Magna Carta by King John as a "good story" but "not what one might regard as serious history".

I happened to read the article immediately after my weekly stint as a steward in the Salisbury Cathedral Chapter House, in which one of the four remaining original copies of Magna Carta is exhibited. The Chapter House is visited by hundreds of thousands of tourists each year, primarily (though not solely) to see Magna Carta.

It is indeed (to quote the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority spokesman on another page on the same day) "so historically significant that it should be a legal requirement" to teach schoolchildren about it.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. SAUMAREZ SMITH,
16 Mill Road,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.
February 28.

From Major R. d'Arcy Ryan

Sir, William Rees-Mogg refers to "bad King John ... dying of a surfeit of lampreys". As every schoolboy used to know it was King Henry I who, while in Normandy, ate the fatal meal.

Yours sincerely,
R. d'ARCY RYAN,
64 Tilford Road, Farnham, Surrey.
February 28.

From Dr Anthony Freeman

Sir, Lively debate about the "content" of national curriculum history must not deflect attention from the broader issue: the *nature* of history as a school subject.

Increasing depth and breadth of knowledge are not tested under the current statutory orders. Teachers are encouraged to "invent the past", or to allow seven-year-olds to perceive 1492 as the date of Columbus's first voyage across the Atlantic as being merely a "point of view". I do not think we can go on like this.

Knowing more about a wider range of salient topics and deploying that knowledge rationally is all that needs to be tested. If this is unacceptable I propose a new subject, "applied history", to stand alongside traditional history.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY FREEMAN,
(Member, History Committee,
Schools Examination and
Assessment Council, 1992-93),
7 Rocks Park Road,
Uckfield, East Sussex.
March 1.

Sprouts on the menu

From Mrs R. F. Daly

Sir, A little while ago my primary school son was prepared to go further than Matthew Parris (February 28) and his friends, when he put in writing:

I am 6 years old
I have brown eyes
I like tractors
I don't like brussel sprouts.

Yours faithfully,
ROSAMOND DALY,
Old Patsford Farm,
Middle Marwood,
Barnstaple, North Devon.

From Mr Douglas Jaggers

Sir, William Rees-Mogg gives an excellent summary of English history (February 28). Could he now have a word with Matthew Parris and his philistine friends who hate "visiting castles"? Castles too are important in history!

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS JAGGERS (sprout-lover),
2 Old Vicarage Close,
Littleover, Derby.

From Mr J. M. B. Young

Sir, This delightful little cabbage-in-miniature is absolutely essential if a meal of English roast pheasant is to be perfect. I would *not* contemplate one without the other.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. B. YOUNG,
South House,
Headington Hill, Oxford.
February 28.

From Mrs M. F. Bridger

Sir, Matthew Parris should move to Devon, where no one would dream of eating Brussels sprouts unless they liked them.

Yours faithfully,
MARY F. BRIDGER,
Brook House, Plympton,
Plymouth, Devon.
March 1.

From Mrs Rosemary Markham

Sir,
Matthew Parris thinks the sprout
When cooked is quite a bore,
And so it is, but there's no doubt
It's nutty-nice when raw.

Yours sincerely,
ROSEMARY MARKHAM,
41 Millbrook Road,
Dinas Powys,
South Glamorgan.
February 28.

Europe's powers

From Mr Ray Whitney, MP for Wycombe (Conservative)

Sir, In your editorial of February 28, "Just say no", you suggest that "there is room" (odd phrase) for a campaign "that exploits justified anxieties about loss of sovereignty". Yet you point out that, while Douglas Hurd praises the Conservatives for having taken "every single step towards greater co-operation within Europe", he also states that they want "to keep Britain's right to make most decisions about our future here in Britain". You call this "a muddled message".

Contrary to this message being muddled, I believe that it is clear to anyone understanding the realities of Europe and Britain's future. Or would the only policy which would satisfy you be Britain's withdrawal from the European Union? That is the logical response to your sustained hostility to every attempt to make the Union work more effectively for its member states.

Your recollection of Margaret Thatcher's rejection of the Conservative manifesto for the 1989 Euro-elections underlines the dangers inherent in the policy you advocate. You will recall that Mrs Thatcher then saddled us with the slogan "Who wants to live on a diet of Brussels?" The result was a drop of Conservative seats from 45 to 32 and Socialist control of the European Parliament. It was the only national election Margaret Thatcher ever lost. You appear to want a repeat performance.

Sincerely,
RAY WHITNEY
(Chairman),
Positive European Group,
House of Commons.
March 3.

From Sir Christopher Prout, QC, MEP for Shropshire and Stafford (European People's Party Parliamentary Group (Conservative))

Sir, In your leader entitled "Just say no" you suggest that I and some of my Conservative colleagues in the European Parliament were present at a meeting of the European People's Party political bureau on February 3 which unanimously endorsed the manifesto of the EPP — a transnational political party — for the forthcoming European elections.

This is not so. Neither I, nor, as far as I am aware, any of my colleagues was at either the debate or the vote on the EPP manifesto on that day. In my case, my flight took off from Brussels airport that morning, three and a half hours before the debate even began.

In any event, neither the Conservative Party nor the Conservative MEPs are entitled to play, or have played, any part in debating or drafting the EPP manifesto or in voting for it in any form.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER PROUT,
European Parliament,
Rue Belliard 1040, Brussels.
March 2.

From Sir Anthony Meyer

Sir, Mr Bernard Levin, in his article of February 25, "Europe's threat to liberty", adduces the proposals for a European constitution as confirmation of this threat.

This is to stand truth on its head. A proper written constitution for Europe, to replace the present incomprehensible jumble of treaties, amendments and protocols, would enable the citizen to understand what are the limits of the powers to be exercised by the central institutions of the European Union and those to be returned to national governments (and, for that matter, those to be returned to local governments). A constitution would also enshrine the citizen's rights against authority.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY MEYER
(Policy Director),
European Movement —
United Kingdom,
Europe House,
158 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Ding-dong over a very des res

From Mr C. J. Bishop

Sir, "Muddle-headed" or not, if Camden Council were so opposed to the application to demolish No 15 Eton Avenue, Belsize Park ("Des res, cons area: watch it come down", Marcus Binney, March 1), they could have simply refused it. It would be churlish to think that perhaps they preferred to let someone else take that decision for them — in this case a government inspector.

Of course, it may be that they recognised that the whole question of conservation areas needs looking at and therefore decided to let the independent inspector assess the proposals on merit. If so, they can take some credit for at least recognising that, whilst there are areas which warrant some measure of protection and individual buildings and trees which we should preserve, all too often conservation areas are created as a tool to prevent development, usually with the support of local residents.

Unless we seek to create pockets of housing which are deprived of the natural process of renewal and investment, and unless the currency is to be devalued by the creation of so many such "special" areas, such a policy has to be wrong.

Perhaps Camden Council were far-sighted enough to realise that, without some measure of acceptable redevelopment, conservation areas are more likely to become stagnant museums dedicated to the past than places for the fortunate to live in. It's a pity other local planning authorities don't see it that way.

Yours faithfully,
C. J. BISHOP (Director),
Kent Estates Ltd,
The Yard, 1 Walters Yard,
Bromley, Kent.
March 3.

From Councillor Brian Woodrow

Sir, While making it clear that the decision to demolish 15 Eton Avenue was taken solely on the recommendation of the enquiry inspector, Marcus Binney could not resist a side swipe at Camden Council, on the grounds that it has no conservation officer and that its arguments are "muddle-headed".

It is time the myth that we have no conservation officer was laid to rest. For the record, the council has a conservation and design section, comprising seven officers with a wide range of the relevant skills.

The issue at 15 Eton Avenue was the extent to which the proposals preserved or enhanced the character of the conservation area. The council did not consider the architecture of the existing building to be irreplaceable in view of the later alterations. The grounds on which we opposed the development include an increase in traffic, the loss of private open space, the bulk and siting of the proposals, and their failure either to preserve or enhance the character of the conservation area.

We welcome pressure on the Department of the Environment to clarify its position on the demolition of unlisted buildings in conservation areas. Our policies go well beyond current government guidance: we state that there is a presumption against the demolition of unlisted buildings where they make a positive contribution to the character of a conservation area.

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN WOODROW
(Chair, Development Control Sub-committee),
Camden Council,
The Town Hall, Euston Road, NW1.
March 3.

Cricket practice

From Mr Patrick Woods

Sir, Your Diary (March 1) indicates the possibility that John Major might "drop in" to Barbados for the fourth Test. Could he get some of the England cricketers to understand the meaning of "back to basics"?

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK WOODS,
49 Stainmore Road, Bedford.
March 2.

The whole hog?

From Mr A. R. Childs

Sir, Your report (later editions, March 1) on the recapture of a peccary which had savaged a rottweiler and a mastiff brought to mind an occasion some 25 years ago when I had to visit Pittard's tannery in Yeovil to investigate a complaint about a parcel of Brazilian peccary skins which I had sold to them.

There could be no denying the damage — holes, cuts and scratches abounded — and I sought to minimise the claim by explaining that peccaries were the wild boar of the Amazon region, armed with sharp tusks which were used in their frequent fights.

"Surely," I asked purchasing director Graham Dibben, "we have to make allowances for the nature of the beast and be prepared to accept quite a large number of faults?"

"Very well," he replied, "on this occasion we will accept the shipment, but next time can we have some of the winners, please?"

Yours faithfully,
A. R. CHILDS,
9 Woodlands Road, Liverpool 17.

Weekend Money letters, page 39

COURT CIRCULAR

ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 4: The Prince of Wales, Founder and President, The Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, chaired a meeting of the Court of Advisers at 14-15 Gloucester Gate, Regent's Park, London NW1.
Mr Stephen Lamport was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, President, Royal Shakespeare Company, this evening gave a Reception.

YORK HOUSE,
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 4: The Duchess of Kent this afternoon left Heathrow Airport for New Zealand.

Tomorrow's royal engagement

Princess Alexandra, as Chancellor, will attend a concert given by Manchester Camerata at Lancaster University at 7.30.

Sherborne School

The refurbished and rebuilt Harper House at Sherborne School is being opened today by five "Harper Housemasters" — Messrs J.T. Melvin (1948-59), D.J.W. Bridge (1959-74), A.E. Rouse (1974-83), D.P. Jones (1983-94) and G.C. Allen (Housemaster-elect).

University news

Glasgow
Dr Janet Allen, previously a lecturer at Cambridge University, has been appointed to the Chair in Molecular Medicine. Dr David J. Stott has been appointed to the David Cargill Chair of Geriatric Medicine.

Service dinners

Royal Marines
Major-General John Hardy presided at the annual dinner of the Royal Marines Officers' Dinner Club held last night at Lincoln's Inn. Sir Christopher Slade, Captain Malcolm Carver, RN, and the Rev Andrew Rowe were among the guests.

Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry
Major-General Sir Michael Palmer, Honorary Colonel of the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry, presided at the annual Red Rose dinner held last night at Kearsley House, Wigan. Brigadier J.J. Gaskell and Colonel M.B. Haycock were the principal guests.

Dinner

Chief Constables' Club
The Lord Chief Justice was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Chief Constables' Club held last night at Guildhall. Mr Brian Johnson, Chief Constable of Lancashire, presided.

Anniversaries

Today
BIRTHS: David Bruce, David II, King of Scotland reigned 1329-71, Dunfermline, 1324; Gerhardus Mercator, cartographer, Rupelmonde, Belgium, 1512; William Oughtred, mathematician and pioneer of the slide rule, Eton, 1574; Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac, explorer and founder of the city of Detroit, Les Laumets, France, 1658; Giovanni Tiepolo, painter, Venice, 1696; William Shield, composer, Co Durham, 1748; Sir Austen Layard, archaeologist and excavator of Nineveh, Paris, 1817; Sir Charles Thomson, naturalist, Bonsyde, Lothian, 1830; Howard Pyle, illustrator and author of children's books, Wilmington, Delaware, 1853; Sir Henry Wilson, field marshal, Edgeworth, Co Longford, 1864; Frank Norris, novelist, Chicago, 1870; William Henry Beveridge, 1st Baron Beveridge, economist, Rangpur, India, 1879.
DEATHS: Antonio Correggio, painter, Correggio, Italy, 1534; Thomas Arne, composer, London, 1778; Flora Macdonald, Jacobite, Skye, 1790; Franz Mesmer, physician and pioneer of hypnotism, Miersburg, Austria, 1815; Pierre Simon, Marquis de Laplace, astronomer, 1827; Count Alessandro Volta, physicist, Como, 1827; Sir Henry Rawlinson, orientalist, London, 1895; Edgar Lee Masters, poet and novelist, Philadelphia, 1950; Sergei Prokofiev, composer, Moscow, 1953; Joseph Stalin, Soviet leader, Moscow, 1953; Anna Akhmatova, poet, Moscow, 1966; Tito Gobbi, baritone, Rome, 1984.
British troops opened fire on a civilian crowd in Boston, Massachusetts, killing five people, in what was dubbed "The Boston Massacre", 1770.
Covent Garden Theatre was destroyed by fire, 1856.
The Nazis won almost half the seats in the German general elections, 1933. The *Spitfire* made its first flight from Eastleigh aerodrome, Southampton, 1936.

Tomorrow
BIRTHS: Michelangelo Buonarroti, sculptor, painter and poet, Caprese, Tuscany, 1475; Francesco Guicciardini, statesman, Florence, 1483; Savinien Cyrano de Bergerac, dramatist, Paris, 1619; Sir Charles Napier, admiral, Falkirk, 1786; Elizabeth Barrett Browning, poet, Durham, 1806; George du Maurier, caricaturist and novelist, Paris, 1834.
DEATHS: Francis Beaumont, dramatist, London, 1616; Davy Crockett, frontiersman, killed in the Battle of the Alamo, Texas, 1836; Thomas Attwood, Chartist leader, Great Malvern, 1856; William Whewell, philosopher, Cambridge, 1866; Charles Farrar Browne (pen name of Artemus Ward), humorous writer, Southampton, 1867; Louisa May Alcott, novelist, Boston, Massachusetts, 1888; Gottlieb Daimler, pioneer of the internal combustion engine, Cannstatt, Germany, 1900; John Redmond, Irish nationalist, London, 1918; John Philip Sousa, composer and band leader, Reading, Pennsylvania, 1932; Sir Halford Mackinder, geographer, Parkstone, Dorset, 1947; Herbert Morrison, Baron Morrison of Lambeth, statesman, Sidcup, 1965; Zoltán Kodály, composer, Budapest, 1967; Pearl S. Buck, novelist, Nobel laureate 1938, Danby, Vermont, 1971; Martin Niemoller, anti-Nazi priest, Wiesbaden, 1984.
The Battle of the Alamo ended, 1836.
Aspirin was patented by Felix Hoffman, 1899.
Daylight raids on Berlin began from US bases in Britain, 1944.
Over 190 died when the *Herald of Free Enterprise* ferry capsized outside Zeebrugge harbour, 1987.

Weekend birthdays

TODAY: The Hon David Astor, CH, 82; Lady Elizabeth Basset, Woman of the Bedchamber to Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, 86; the Right Rev Thomas Butler, Bishop of Leicester, 54; Admiral Sir Simon Cassels, 66; the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, 67; Mr Jim Dowd, MP, 43; Earl Grey, 55; Mr Anthony Hedges, composer, 63; Archbishop Bruno Heim, former Apostolic Pro-Nuncio, 83; Mr R.A.E. Herbert, former president, Royal Horticultural Society, 60; Mr Richard Hickox, conductor, 46; Mrs Ann Longley, headmistress, Roedean School, 52; Lord Macfarlane of Bearsden, 68; Miss Elspeth March, actress, 83; Lord Marshall of Goring, 62; Sir Derek Mitchell, civil servant, 72; Miss Elaine Paige, singer, 42; Sir Jack Rumbold, former president, Industrial Tribunals, 74; Mr Barry Tuckwell, horn soloist and conductor, 63; Mr Des Wilson, former co-chairman, Campaign for Freedom of Information, 53.

TOMORROW: Dr M.G. Adam, astrophysicist, 82; Sir Peter Barclay, former chairman, Social Security Advisory Committee, 68; Miss Jean Boht, actress, 58; Mr William Davis, author, broadcaster and former chairman, British Tourist Authority, 61; Mr Don Dixon, MP, 65; Professor Sir Charles Frank, physicist, 83; Mr David Gilmour, guitarist and singer with the Pink Floyd, 48; Sir Alistair Grant, chairman, Argyll Group, 57; Professor David Hendry, president, Royal Economic Society, 50; Professor Sir Raymond Hoffenberg, former president, Wolfson College, Oxford, 71; Mr Robert Innes, Lord Provost and Lord Lieutenant of Glasgow, 68; Mr Lorin Maazel, conductor, 64; Sir Hal Miller, MP, 65; Mr Malcolm Moss, MP, 51; Mme Valentina Nikolayeva-Tereshkova, first woman in space, 57; Mr Richard Noble, world land speed record holder, 48; Dr J.H.P. Pafford, librarian, 94; Sir Ian Dixon Scott, diplomat, 85; the Right Rev David Sheppard, Bishop of Liverpool, 65; Sir Peter Stallard, former colonial administrator, 79; Professor Marilyn Strathern, social anthropologist, 53; Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, opera singer, 50; Mr D.H. Whitaker, publisher, 63; Mrs Jane Woodhead, former Building Societies Ombudsman, 40; Mrs Ann Winterton, MP, 53; Sir Oliver Wright, diplomat, 73.



Frits van Veenhuysen finishes a portrait of Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands on one of the delicately painted Easter eggs he produces each year. For this Easter the painter, based in Amstelveen, has chosen the theme of royalty

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.J.H.R. Bakker and Miss M.L. Cole
The engagement is announced between Michiel, son of Mr Jaap Bakker, of the Hague, Holland, and the late Mrs Eugenie Bakker, and Mary Lucia, daughter of Mrs Lucy Cole, of Cooden, Sussex, and the late Mr Selwyn Cole.

Mr A.E. Cutler and Miss L. Snape
The engagement is announced between Adam, son of the late Dr Joseph N. Cutler and of Mrs Myra Cutler, of Belgravia, London, and Linda Snape, of Staffordshire.

Mr T.P. Dempsey and Miss H.B. Jukes
The engagement is announced between Timothy Paul, younger son of Mr and Mrs B. Dempsey, of Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, and Hilary Barbara, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J.D. Jukes, of Cumnor, Oxfordshire.

Mr T.H. French and Miss T.E. Scott-Adie
The engagement is announced between Thomas Henry, youngest son of Mr and Mrs M. French, of Clements Reach Farm, Meopham, Kent, and Tanya Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs J.W. Scott-Adie, of Beechwood House, Kettins, Cupar Angus, Perthshire.

Mr M.J.W. Hitchcox and Mlle N.N.M.J. Collinet
The engagement is announced between Michael, elder son of the late Mr Duncan Hitchcox and of Mrs Claire Hitchcox, of Belchamp Walter, Suffolk, and Nathalie, elder daughter of M and Mme J. Collinet, of Rennes, France.

Dr C.P. Martin and Miss P.A. Groves
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of the late Mr C.H. Martin and of Mrs Maureen Martin, of Donaghadee, Co Down, and Philippa, daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Groves, of Aldeburgh, Suffolk.

Mr M.L. Rakusen and Miss M.J. Mason
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs Arnold Rakusen, of Leeds, and Margaret, daughter of Mr and Mrs William Mason, of Eldwick, Bingley.

Mr T.M.S. Walker and Miss L.A. Bartlett
The engagement is announced between Thomas, second son of the late Steve Walker and of Mrs M. Spicer, and stepson of Mr James Spicer, of Ealing and Narborough, and Lucy, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Paul Bartlett, of Ham, Richmond, Surrey.

Latest wills

Mr Harold Isaac Noakes, of Willow Green, Great Leighs, Essex, left estate valued at £1,539,950 net.
He left £27,000 to personal legatees, £100,000 to the Bishop of Chelmsford, for charitable purposes, and the residue to form "The Alice Noakes Memorial Charitable Trust" to make donations to charitable institutions connected with animal welfare.

Mr Peter Robert Bath, of Wyton, Cambridgeshire, formerly of Manor Farm, Hartford, left estate valued at £3,870,166 net.

Miss Constance Ruth Leathart, of Little Bavington, Capheaton, Northumberland, one of the first 20 British women pilots to obtain a Royal Aero Club flying certificate and a friend of Amy Johnson, left estate valued at £511,843 net.

Mr Ronald Giles Daubeny, of Linton Park, Maidstone, Kent, Comptroller of the Household in New Delhi and Simla to the last Viceroy of India, Earl Mountbatten of Burma, left estate valued at £838,419 net.

Dr George Durant Kersley, of Bath, Avon, the rheumatologist, left estate valued at £56,602 net.
He left his water colour of the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases, Bath, to that Hospital.

Commander Norman John Scarlett-Streatfield, of Hungerford, Berkshire, a hero of the Battle of Taranto, the night attack on the Italian Fleet in the Second World War, left estate valued at £846,577 net.
He left £500 each to St Michael's Parish Church, Brinkworth, Chippenham, Holy Cross Parish Church, Uckfield, East Sussex, and the RNLI, Wootton Bassett Branch.

Miss Joan Dora May Bawden, of Fordingbridge, Hampshire, left estate valued at £305,388 net.
She left her entire estate equally between the Save the Children Fund, Dr Barnardo's, Institute of Cancer Research, and the RNLI.

Church services tomorrow

Third Sunday in Lent
CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Bennett), Salvator Mundi (Tallis), The Dean; 2.15 Holy Baptism; 3.15 E, Responses (Leighton), Service for trebles (Weelkes), O Lord in thy wrath (Gibbons); 6.30 Sermon & Compline, The Precentor.
CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 7.45 M; 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Faite d'argens (Cavazzoni), Aeterna Christi Munera (Palestrina), Ave verum (Mozart), Praeludium in F sharp minor (Buxtehude), Canon David Jenkins; 3 E, Responses (Byrd), Noble in B Minor, Wash me throughly (Wesley), Full Voluntary in D minor (Wesley).
CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 Parish Communion, Canon Philip Wood; 11.15 S Euch, Mass of the Quiet Hour (Oldroyd), O Salutaris Hostia (Elgar), The Vice Provost; 6 Choral E, Responses (Tomkins), The Short Service (Farrant), Salvator mundi (Blow), Canon Peter Southwell-Sander.
CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 Litany; 8 HC; 10 M, Sumsion in B flat, Canon Owen Conway; 11.30 Choral Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Canon Trevor Dennis; 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Ebdon), Short Service (Aylewarde), Blessed are they that mourn (Brahms), Chaconne in D minor (Pachelbel); 6.30 E, Canon Michael Rees.
COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 Communion; 10.30 Cathedral Euch, Byrd à Five, Litany (Leddington Wright), And didst thou travel light (Shephard), Canon Heather Wallace; 5.30 E, Hear my prayer (Purcell), Responses (Little), Short Service (Aylewarde), Thou art a priest (Wesley).
DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Sumsion in B flat, Stanford in G, Litany (Walton), Canon Coppin; 11.15 HC, Missa super Bella Amfitrit' altera (Lassus), O sacrum convivium (Tallis), Canon Coppin, Canon Hodgson; 3.30 E, Purcell in B flat, Jehova quam multi sunt hostes mei (Purcell), Polonaise in E flat minor (Chopin).
ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Messe solennelle (Vierne), The Lamentation (Bairstow), Canon Rone, Carillon (Vierne); 3.45 E, Preces (Tallis), Third Service (Tomkins), Jehova quam multi sunt hostes (Purcell), Five-part Fantasia (Bach); 6.30 Taize Service.
LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Ireland in C, Herrick's Ode to God (Newbold), Rev Michael Stark; 4 Choral E, Responses (Statham), Walmisley in D minor, Thou wilt keep him (Wesley).
LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Messe Solennelle (Langlais), Benedicite in A (Harris), Pater noster (Stravinsky), The Dean; 3.30 E, Responses (Reading), Purcell in G minor, Turn thee unto me (Boyce).
TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M, Rev Parran Gay; 10 S Euch, Lord for thy tender mercies sake (Hilton), Missa Brevis in G (Mozart), Ave verum Corpus (Mozart), Rev Parran Gay; 6 E, Responses (Aylewarde), Blair in B minor, Wash me throughly (Wesley), The Deacon.
WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Darke in F, Rev P G Walker; 11.30 M, Responses (Aylewarde), Sumsion in B flat, Ireland in C, Lord let me know mine end (Greene); 3 E, Collegium Magdalenae Oxoniense (Leighton), There is an old belief (Parry), Ven R M C Frith.
WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Byrd), Short Service (Benedictus), Turn thy face from my sins (Attwood), Canon Christopher Lamb; 11.15 Abbey Euch, Missa Bel amfitrit' altera (Lassus), Crucifixus (Lotti), Confitemini Domino (Palestrina), Sister Hilary Markey CSMV; 3 E, Wood in F, Cast me not away (Wesley), Rev Dr Anthony Harvey; 6.30 ES, Rev Jeremy Caddick.
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30, 7 Mass; 10.30 SM, Asperges me (Plainsong), Agnus Dei (Lassus), O Domine Iesu Christe (Guerrero), Salvator mundi (Tallis); 10 MP; 3.30 SV & B, Magnificat tertii toni (de Monte), Vivo ego dicit Dominus (Lobo).
YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Litany (Loosemore), Chichester Mass (Lloyd), Rev Leon Carberry; 11.30 M, Responses (Byrd), Benedicite in G (Jackson), Benedictus in G (Sumsion); 4 E, Wesley in E, Christus factus est (Bruckner), Canon John Toy.
ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 11 Choral Euch, Darke in B, Salvator Mundi (Tallis); 3.30 E and admission of choristers, Stanford in C, Responses (Clucas), Lord, let me know mine end (Greene).
ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10 (Family), 6 LM; 11.30 SM, Mass for Four Voices (Byrd), Crucifixus (Lotti), Father Anthony Richins.
ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8, 10 HC, Mass for Five Voices (Byrd), The Minister; 11.30 Morning Service, O Bone Jesu (Palestrina), The Minister; 6 Lenten Address & Music, Douglas Templeton; 8 ES, Dr Michael McCabe.
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC, Responses (Tallis); 10.30 M, Benedictus, Service in Three Parts (Mundy), Rev Christopher Hill; 11.30 HC, Plainsong Mass (Taverner), Sicut cervus (Palestrina); 3.15 E, Howells in E, Emendemus in melius (Morales), Canon Hugh Wybrew, Praeludium in E major (Lübeck).
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, Dundee: 8 HC; 9.40 Sung Communion; 11 Choral Euch, Darke in F, O Lord God (Buck), The Provost; 6.30 Choral E, Blair in B minor, Insanae et vanae curae (Haydn).
ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Missa Brevis (Leighton), Jesu grant me this I pray (Whitlock), The Vicar; 6 E & B, The Short Service (Causton), Miserere mei Deus (Byrd), Rev F McGeary.
ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 Communion Service; 11 World Focus Sunday, Rev Dr John Stott; 6.30 Mr Graham Carr.
AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 9.45 Sunday School; 11 Worship, Rev James Schmidt.
THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Western Wind Mass (Taverner), Ecce quomodo moritur (Vittoria), Si ambulem in medio (Tye).
CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 HC, Rev Stanley Hood.
FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM.
HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC, Mr Ken Costa; 11, 6.30 Informal Service, Rev Sandy Millar.
THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B.
WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 11 Morning Service & HC, Rev Dr Gordon E Barritt, Rev Paul Hulme.
WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, Council of Christians & Jews, Dr Paul Mendel; 6.30, Rev Dr R John Tudor.
ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev Peter E Erickson, Lutheran Pastor, Webster, Wisconsin USA; 2 Swahili Service, Rev Boniface Kwangu, Anglican Church of the Province of Tanzania; 7 Choral Mass, Organ mass based on Cunctipotens Genitor Deus, Nicolas de Grigny, Rev John Pridmore.
ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Missa Iste Confessor (Palestrina), Ecce nunc tempus (Guerrero), Preb Michael Shrewsbury; 6.30 E, Plainsong & fauxbourdons (Ruffo & Nanini), God which hast prepared (Mudd), Rev Anthony Winter.
ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Dyson in F, Whitlock in G, Salvator mundi (Tallis), Responses (Aylewarde), Canon John Oates; 6.30 Choral E, Noble in B minor, Wash me throughly (Wesley), Canon John Oates.
ST CLEMENT DANES: 9, 12.15 HC; 11 MP, Benedicite (Purcell), Blessed is he whose unrighteousness is forgiven (Purcell), Rev Ian Beckwith.
ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11, 6.30 Rev John H McIndoe.
ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 SM, Mass for five voices (Byrd), When David Heard (Weelkes), Jesus Christus unser Heiland (Bach).
ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis in F (Mozart), All we like sheep (Handel), Rev Bill Wilson; 6 Choral E & Ministry of Healing, Humfrey in F, Ah helpless wretch (Mundy), Br Cedan SSF.
ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa de Angelis, Civitas Sancti tui (Byrd), Fantasia & fugue in G minor (Bach), Rev Peter Haughton; 6.30 E, O Lord in thy wrath (Gibbons), Canon Eric James.
ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family Communion; 11 S Euch, The Short Service (Batten), Rev Joe Humble.
ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells), Wash me throughly (Wesley), Rev Philip Chester.
ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.45 Euch, Mass Setting (Mathias), O Saviour of the World (Stainer), Litany (Walton), Miserere mei (Byrd), Prelude (Harris); 11.30 Visitors Service, Responses (Ayleward), Open Thou mine eyes (Rutter), God be in my head (Rutter), Liebster Jesu (Bach); 2.45 Chinese Service, Rev Gilbert Lee; 5 Choral E, Chants (Lloyd, Ashley), Responses (Ayleward), Purcell in G minor, Hear my prayer (Purcell), Psalm prelude (Howells); 6.30 ES, World of Work, Nun bitten wir den Heilige Geist (Buxtehude), Rev Bernhard Schunemann.
ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45 LM; 11 HM, Mass for five voices (Byrd), Bishop of Basingstoke; 6 E & B; 7 LM.
ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Parish Euch, Mass setting (Plainsong), The Lamentations (Bairstow), The Vicar; 6 Choral E, Second Service (Byrd), Wash me throughly (Wesley).
ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Laboravi in gemitu meo (Weelkes), Rev Peter Wells; 6.30 Ministry of Healing, Sr Denzil CSA.
ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa de Angelis (Plainsong), Recordare Domine (Genet), Sederunt in terra (Genet), Canon Jeremy Davies.
ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 S Euch, Western Wind Mass (Taverner), Remember not Lord our offences (Purcell), Rev Fr Ashley Buck.
ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 11 SM, Missa Brevis a Four (Heredia), Auditor in opportunitantibus (Ebelin), Nolo mortem peccatoris (Morley), Canon Christopher Colvin; 6 Stations of the Cross & B.
CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Responses (Smith), Short Service (Weelkes), Salvador Mundi (Tallis), Canon J G M W Murphy.
CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 S Euch, Missa Marris Dei (Jackson), Canon D C Gray.
CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 M & Litany; 11 Choral Euch, O Magnum Mysterium (Victoria), Ave verum corpus (Philips); 3.30 E, Miserere mei (Byrd), Short Service (Byrd), Bring us O Lord God (Harris).
GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 11 S Euch, Missa Dies Sanctificatus (Palestrina), O crux splendidior (Philips), Rev Simon Hobbs.
QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 S Euch, Short Service (Byrd), Aeterna Christi Munera (Palestrina), The Chaplain.
THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Hide not thou thy face (Farrant), Responses (Smith), The Lamentations of Jeremiah (Bairstow), Thalben-Ball in C, Lord let me know mine end (Greene), The Master, Organ, Postlude in D minor (Stanford).
GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 Choral HC, Nolo Mortem peccatorem (Morley), Lay in E minor, Ubi Caritas (Duruflé), The Chaplain, March from Things to Come (Bliss), The Scots Guards.
ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, Hide not thou thy face (Farrant), O my people (Vittoria), Rev K McCormack.

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Lord of Hosts, you test the righteous and search the depths of the heart. To you I have committed my cause. Jeremiah 20:12 (REB)

BIRTHS

CHEESE-PROBERT - On February 12th at The Portland Hospital, to Helen and Nicholas, a son, James Ayrton, a brother for Henry.
CHRISTIE - On 2nd March, to Andrew and Antonia (née Woodthorpe), a son, James John Hildred, a brother for Olivia.
GRIMOND - On February 21st, to Laura and Magnus, a daughter, Lucy Clare Laura.
KOHLL - On January 28th 1994, to Malcolm and Esme, a son, Harlan Alexander.
McGOWAN - On March 2nd 1994, to Deborah (née Gordon) and Charles, a daughter, Rosanna Mary.
MITCHELL - On February 28th, to Susie (née Woods) and John, a son, a brother for Annabel and Alexander.
MURRAY - On March 2nd at The Portland Hospital, to Pinyi (née Lin) and Justin, a beautiful daughter, Nicola Helena.
RANDLE - On Saturday 19th February, to Rosemary (née Farman) and Simon, a daughter, Charlotte Mary Anne.
VON HABSBURG - Their Imperial and Royal Highnesses, Karl and Francesca von Habsburg, Archduke and Archduchess of Austria on February 28th in Salzburg, a daughter, Eleonore.
WATKINS - On February 25th, to Ken and Harriet (née Bradfer-Lawrence), a son, Samuel Philip.
WOOTTON - On March 1st in Northern Ireland, to Sarah (née Sole) and John, a son, James David, a brother for Oliver and Henry.

DEATHS

BALFOUR - Brigid. On March 1st peacefully at home.
BERRY - George Bernard, suddenly at home in Mere on Monday February 28th. Cremation private. No flowers please.
DUNRAVEN - On March 2nd 1994, peacefully at Kilgobbin, Adare, Nancy, Countess of Dunraven, beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral will be held on Monday March 7th 1994 at St Nicholas' Church, Adare, Co. Limerick at 12 noon. House private.
FRYER - Douglas Henry, Commander R.N., O.B.E., died peacefully at home on February 26th, aged 97 years. Beloved husband of Agnes, father of John, Maryan and Timothy. Memorial Service at Kingston Church on March 11th at 12.30 pm. Donations, if desired, to the British Sailors' Society c/o J & G Perrott, 15 Duncombe Street, Kingsbridge, South Devon TQ7 1LR.
HURTLEY - On 2nd March 1994, suddenly in Devon, Anthony, beloved husband of Monique and father of Charles, Malcolm and Liza-Jane. Memorial Service, 11th March, noon, at St Mary's Church, Worplesdon, Surrey. Donations if desired to the British Heart Foundation.
OLDFIELD - On 2nd March 1994, at her home in West Chiltington, Margaret, aged 78 years. Much loved mother of Paul. Cremation at Worthing on Friday 11th March at 2 pm. No flowers please. Donations in lieu, if desired, to Imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o H.D. Tribe Ltd., 21 West Street, Storrington, Sussex RH20 4DZ.
PASCALL - On March 3rd, peacefully in hospital, Derek Brindley aged 83 years. Dearly loved husband of Win, father of John and father-in-law of Shelagh. Private cremation service. Memorial Service at Purley United Reformed Church on Wednesday March 9th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations for Reedham Trust or Purley U.R.C. may be sent to J.B. Shakespeare Ltd., 67 George Street, Croydon.
SHAH - Ali, husband of Karen and father of Greta, passed away suddenly on February 27th. A service of thanksgiving will be held at St Columba's, Pont Street, Knightsbridge at 11.30 am, March 17th. Donations to the Parkinson's Disease Society.

DEATHS

SHINNIE - On 1st March, peacefully at home, Ellen aged 85 years, beloved wife of the late James and much loved mother of Celia and dear Nana of Amanda and Katie. Cremation at Eastbourne on Monday 7th March 1994 at 12.45 pm.
TORRIE - On March 3rd, peacefully in hospital, Patrick Jameson, in his 78th year, dearly loved husband of Barbara, much loved father of Ian and James and proud grandfather. Private cremation. Family flowers only please.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BROWN - W. David, O.B.E., 1929-1992. Always missed, always remembered.
FULLER - In loving memory of Jill Elizabeth who died on 31st December 1992, on this her birthday, 6th March. Emil.

BIRTHDAYS

SUE - Have a fabulous birthday, go wild, with lots of love from all at Caesars Cottage XOXX.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

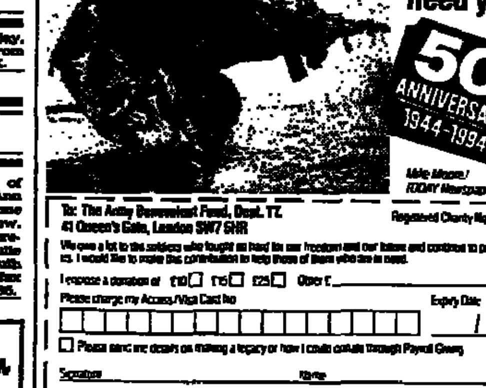
WATTS Daughter in search of her birth mother Carol-Ann Watts, had a daughter June 19th 1962 in Walthamstow. Any information on her whereabouts please contact Julie Patricia Godwin, 920 South Bland Street 2, Halifax Novascotia, Canada B3H 2S6.

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TRUSTEE ACTS

DOMOTOR Albert of 27 Listhorpe Road, London N16 died on 17th May 1992 particulars to Goodman Derrick solicitors of 90 Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1EQ (Ref: KCB/134121) before 6th May 1994.
EVANS Gladys Florence of 34 Bronsart Road, London SW6 died on 26th January 1994 particulars to Peter Roger Wright-Morris of Wright-Morris & Co Solicitors of 1 Lochaline Street, London SW6 before 6th May 1994.
HONEY James of 16 The Bowls, Vicarage Lane, Clayhall, Essex died on 17th August 1993: Particulars to Hunt & Hunt Solicitors of Prudential Buildings, 103 Cranbrook Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 4NT before 6th May 1994.
KATHARINE MAUD BREWIS of 15, Orchard Drive, Chestbury Estate, Watford, Hertfordshire, who died on the 10th December, 1993. Particulars to Messrs. Matthew Arnold & Baldwin, P.O. Box No., 101, 20, Station Road, Watford, Herts. WD1 1HT before 9th May 1994.
KIRTON Jeannette Anne of 54 Lower Field Road Reading, Berkshire died on 27th May 1993. Particulars to Sarjeant & Sheppard Solicitors of 180 Friar Street Reading, Berkshire RG1 1HE before 7th May 1994.
McGEORGE NORMAN of 21 ST. JOHN'S ROAD, FROME, SOMERSET died 2nd January 1994: Particulars to Middleton & Upsall, 2 North Parade, Frome, Somerset BA11 1AT before 6th May 1994

TRUSTEE ACTS

MICHAEL ROGER MORRISSEY Deceased
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 27 of the Trustee Act 1925 that any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of Michael Roger Morrissey of 69b Fenham Road, London SE15 who died on the 7th September 1992 and whose Administrators to the estate are Yvonne Marie Vidal and Evans Vidal c/o Messrs. Ewings & Co. of 148 High Street, Penge, London, SE20 are required to send particulars in writing of their claims or interest to the above solicitors by the 4th May 1994 after which the Administrators will distribute the Estate among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have notice.
MYERS Mrs Annie of 87 Bickenhall Mansions, Bickenhall Street, London W1 retired Milliner died 7 January 1994: Particulars to Harbottle & Lewis, Hanover House, 14 Hanover Square, London W1R 0BE. Name of Executor: Marcel Steliman and Frederick Ballon before 6 May 1994.
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.
COLLETT - Mrs Mildred Lilian of 42 Autumn Court, Caversham, Reading died on 31st January 1994. Particulars to Sarjeant & Sheppard Solicitors of 180 Friar Street, Reading RG1 1HE before 13th May 1994.
PEACOCK Ronald of 18 Camden Passage, Islington, London N1 died on 11th January 1994 particulars to Kingsford Stacey Solicitors of Lincoln House, 34b High Street, Harpenden, Herts L5 2SX before 6th May 1994
Peter Leslie Sinclair late of 21 Wyatt Park Road, London SW2 3TN died on 4 December 1993. Particulars to Anthony Gold, Lerman & Muirhead, Solicitors of The Hop Exchange, 24 Southwark Street, London, SE1 1TY before 6th May 1994
TIMOTHY HAMMOND PARKER of 91, Birchen Grove, Luton, Beds., who died on the 22nd November, 1993. Particulars to Messrs. Matthew Arnold & Baldwin, P.O. Box No., 101, 20, Station Road, Watford, Herts. WD1 1HT before 9th May 1994.

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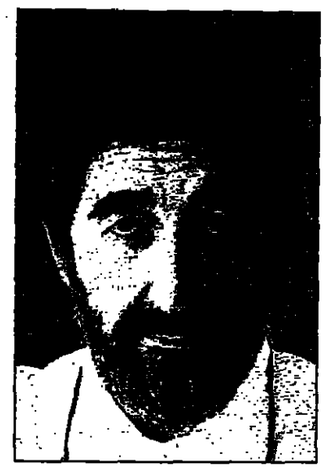
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OBITUARIES

COUNT ALEXANDER LABINSKY

Count Alexander Labinsky, singer and co-founder and chairman of Nimbus Records, 1971-94, died in Wyastone Leys, Monmouth, on January 28 aged 68. He was born on June 19, 1925.



ALEXANDER LABINSKY was better known to the record-buying public as the lieder singer Shura Gehrman, whose name has always been associated with controversy. Reviewing his first boxed set of records, one critic spoke of "experiencing a revelation", while another complained about "a vocal quality of unwieldly, even sinister quality".

Reaction to subsequent records varied from admiration to fury. But when it became generally known that Shura Gehrman was also the founder of Nimbus Records, the balance of opinion swung against him as he was accused of launching a company to issue recordings of his own voice. In fact, he had founded the recording company as long ago as 1957, and refused to make any recordings of himself for 15 years.

Labinsky was not averse to controversy. A small, bearded man whose photographs make him look rather like D. H. Lawrence, he also shared Lawrence's qualities of vital warmth and explosive impatience. He took pleasure in playing the *enfant terrible*, and his quoted opinions were often so outrageous that they created a dangerously inaccurate impression of wilfullness and frivolity. But while it is true that Labinsky had the spontaneity and unpredictability of a hyperactive child, this masked an obsessive conviction that the arts are essential to civilised values, and that a society that neglects its art is unconsciously preparing itself for its own extinction.

Alexander Numa Labinsky's father was a Russian nobleman who had fled to France after the 1917 revolution, and was to commit suicide in 1939; his mother was a highly dominant Frenchwoman. Shura and his twin brother were born — incongruously enough — in Birmingham, where his father ran a jewellery business. The death of his twin at the age of seven was the most traumatic event of his childhood. It was then that he began to sing, making crooning noises as he sat at the top of the stairs. He also turned his back on reality and retreated into a world of fantasy. In effect, he became a kind of 19th-century escapist-romantic.

It was a dangerous attitude for someone who had been left more or less penniless, and might have resulted in suicide or insanity. But Labinsky combined the Slavic romanticism of his father with the determined pragmatism of his mother. The strength of his instinct for survival became apparent during the Second World War when he preferred to become an electrician's mate down a coalmine rather than a soldier; after his day down the mine, he often gave evening recitals, or studied at the Birmingham Rep with Sir Barry Jackson, who said he was his worst pupil. (It is a sign of the enormous affection he was always able to inspire that the Rep kept him on for most of the year, until he refused to act in something he thought puerile, and was thrown out.)

After the war he moved to Paris and studied singing with Reynaldo Hahn, who told him that he reminded him of his old friend Proust. It was an interesting observation, for Labinsky's sensibility was deeply Proustian, and would remain so all his life. The astonishing thing was that he managed to combine this morbid sensitivity with the practical streak inherited from his mother so that he was able to turn Nimbus — founded in 1957 with Michael and Gerald Reynolds — into an immensely successful record company, and one of the world's largest manufacturers of compact discs.

With success, Nimbus Records moved to an enormous country house at Wyastone Leys in Wales. Labinsky's ambition was to turn it into a cultural centre like Aldeburgh or Glyndebourne, and the opening of a large concert hall last year — by the Prince of Wales — was a major step in this direction.

He also hoped to create his own school of singing, holding extremely strong (and quite unrepeatable) views on most of the major singers of our time. Unfortunately, a liver complaint inherited from his mother made him increasingly frail, and in the last decade, his life became an endless succession of pills, injections and medicines. Yet his powers of recovery were so extraordinary that his death — following a stroke — came as a shock to everyone who knew him.

Gehrman's was a remarkable baritone voice of astonishing sensitivity, and the timbre had something in common with that of the great operatic tenor Tamagno. During his last year he even made some fine recordings as a counter-tenor. In recent years he had turned to poetry — his *Collected Poems* will be published by André Deutsch — and even to painting, producing striking expressionistic work in a style akin to Egon Schiele and the paintings of Schoenberg.

The controversy about his singing centred around his insistence on an "open" voice and breathing technique; he felt that most modern singers overemphasise coolness and restraint. If he had restricted himself to Fauré and Duparc — which he sang with unparalleled sensitivity — he might have received as much critical acclaim as Souzay or Bernac. But he also loved Brahms, Schubert and Moussorgsky, and believed that these required a totally different approach; it was this that sometimes led to accusations of overdramatising. In fact, his style was simply a continuation of that of the great lieder singers of the late 19th century, including Reynaldo Hahn.

His personality — charming, infuriating, brilliant, outrageous and deeply perceptive — often overlapped into his singing, and he seemed incapable of doing anything that was not stamped with his individual qualities. That is probably an epitaph of which any man could be proud.

He was unmarried and leaves no family.

HUGH TAYFIELD

Hugh Tayfield, South African cricketer, died in Johannesburg on February 24 aged 65. He was born in Durban on January 30, 1929.



HUGH TAYFIELD was a great bowler with idiosyncratic mannerisms. Of the best half-dozen off spinners since the Second World War — Lance Gibbs of West Indies, E. A. S. Prasanna of India, Jim Laker and Fred Titmus of England, and Athol Rowan and Hugh Tayfield of South Africa — only Prasanna was Tayfield's equal on a really good pitch. They were both masters of guile.

Tayfield was known as "Toey" for his habit of stubbing his toes into the ground before running in to bowl. He did it before every ball; and before every over he religiously folded his cap and kissed the Springbok badge before handing it to the umpire. This was a ritual, though also an affectation. It tended to annoy batsmen; but provocation formed a part of Tayfield's strategy.

There have been a good many bigger orthodox spinners of the ball than Tayfield, but he more than made up for that with his flight and accuracy and cunning. He seemed sometimes to hold the ball back as though he was flying a kite. He also set a field that was very much his own, usually with two very straight forward short legs, some 15 yards from the bat and no more than two or three yards apart. At the same time he would leave extra cover wide open: the intention, and often the effect, was to persuade batsmen to drive against the spin. It hampered the on-drivers as well.

Tayfield never bowled without a slip, even on a turning pitch, his speciality being the ball that floated away from leg to off, bowled from so close to the stumps that he would quite often dislodge a bail in his delivery stride. In some extraordinary way his front foot used to wear a hole dead in front of the bowler's wicket, only inches from the stumps. This forced him to pivot, which, in turn, begat spin and flight.

He was renowned, too, for his fighting qualities. These were never more apparent than in the fourth Test match between England and South Africa at Johannesburg in 1956-57. At 147 for 2, needing only 217 to win the match and the Test series with it, England looked as good as home. Doug Insole was going well and Colin Cowdrey was well set. Yet South Africa won by 17 runs, Tayfield finishing with 9 for 113 after bowling 35 consecutive eight-ball overs. Insole, the only batsman not to fall to him, he caught at slip.

Hugh Joseph Tayfield was the nephew of S. H. Martin, a regular Worcestershire cricketer in the 1930s. He began by bowling leg breaks, but with nothing like the success which came to him as soon as he switched to off spin. His advance then was so rapid that he played his first match for Natal when he was only just 17 and won his first cap, against Australia at Johannesburg in 1949-50, before he was 21.

When Australia were put on a sticky dog at Durban and bowled out for 75 in the third Test of that series, Tayfield took 7 for 23 in 8.4 overs, which remain the best figures in Tests between the two countries. However, he was still only Athol Rowan's understudy, and it was not until after Rowan had retired, in 1951, that Tayfield came into his own.

Between the time of his going to Australia with the South African side in 1952-53 and the end of England's tour to South Africa in 1956-57, he took 123 wickets in 22 Test matches, 30 of them in the series in Australia and no fewer than 37 against England in South Africa. He was blessed with some magnificent fielders to take the catches for him — Russell Endean, particularly, excelling in one of the short-leg positions — and he held some stingers off his own bowling. As a batsman he made 75 against Australia in his second Test match, but that was one only of two fifties in his 60 Test innings.

Tayfield's 170 Test wickets, taken in 37 Tests at 25.91 runs apiece, put him 47 ahead of Trevor Goddard, the next most successful South African bowler. His striking rate of 4.6 wickets per Test match is the best of any postwar spinner, Laker, Ramadhin, Benaud, even Shane Warne included. Lance Gibbs, who finished with 309 Test wickets, took his at 3.91 per Test match.

Off the field, Tayfield's life ran a more chequered course. He had a personality full of charm, but found it hard to settle down. Five times married and divorced, he leaves one son.

ROBERT LEA

Robert Francis Gore Lea, OBE, businessman, died on February 24 aged 88. He was born on January 22, 1906.

DURING the Battle of Britain Robert Lea was second in command at Hornchurch, Essex, under Sir Harry Broadhurst. On one occasion, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Trenchard was visiting Hornchurch and demanded to be flown quickly to Manston in Kent to welcome returning pilots. Commandeering a plane, Lea took off with his passenger. Unfortunately the petrol had not been checked and the engine cut out as the plane came in to land. Happily, the only casualty was a hedge. "You cut that pretty fine," Trenchard remarked as he left the plane.

Lea's greatest role lay in developing the firm which invented Araldite and made glues an essential constituent of aircraft manufacture. In 1937 he had joined his school friend, the physicist Norman de Bruyne, who was developing the first synthetic resin adhesives for the De Havilland Aircraft Company in a village shed outside Cambridge. Lea's role was to sell the glues which were far in advance of their time. After the war, British backers could not be found for the company, Aero Research Ltd (ARL), and it was sold to the Swiss firm Ciba.

By the end of the 1950s glues developed by Ciba ARL were in use in more than 70 types of aircraft, and Araldite, developed for the domestic market, was a household name. Lea retired in 1969.

Educated at Lancing College and Clare College, Cambridge, Lea then worked briefly at Lloyd's and joined the Royal Auxiliary Air Force 600 City of London Squadron.

Called up in 1939, he flew Blenheim night fighters and was appointed OBE for his work at Hornchurch. In 1941 he took part in the defence of Malta. In 1943 he became wing commander, and after the Allied invasion of Normandy, served in France, Holland and Germany.

Lea married first, in 1936, Valerie Domville, and secondly, in 1956, Susan Greenwood. After retirement, he devoted his energies to his large rose garden at Duxford Mill. On open days, a notice would be hung out saying: "Absolutely no politicians admitted."

Lea is survived by his wife Susan, a daughter from his first marriage, and a son from his second.

LIEUT-COL DERRICK HIGNETT



Lieutenant-Colonel Derrick Hignett, leader of the Phantom Force, 1941-43, and former joint master of the Fernie Hunt, died on February 20 aged 93. He was born on August 8, 1900.

KNOWN in Leicestershire primarily as a fearless rider to hounds, Derrick Hignett also played an important role in the planning stages of Operation Jubilee, the disastrous Allied raid on Dieppe in August 1942. Two months before the combined Allied force landed, an élite and newly formed group of commandos led by Hignett were sent ahead on a reconnaissance trip. They were known as Phantom Force and their mission was to capture German radar equipment and hence discover the sophistication of German military facilities in the area.

Only two men in Britain knew of the undercover operation — Churchill, who had personally appointed Hignett, and Alan Brooke, then Chief of the Imperial General Staff. The Prime Minister had to explain to Hignett and his team that, to ensure that no word should filter through to the enemy, no decorations would be awarded. The mission took three days, during which time Hignett and his men managed to remove several pieces of radar equipment from under the noses of the Germans.

Characteristically Hignett ensured that all his men were safely on their way to the ship which was to carry them back to Britain before he scaled down the cliff to the beach himself. Only then did he allow himself to be taken off to the waiting warship which — with extraordinary appropriateness — turned out to be the Hunt class destroyer *Fernie*.

Hignett was convinced, and tried to convince others on his return, that Allied movements around the flat terrain of Dieppe would immediately be detected by the Germans. But, against his advice, Operation Jubilee went ahead as planned and, as Hignett had foreseen, with terrible loss of life. Of the 6,100-strong force of Canadians, British, Americans and Free French who landed at Dieppe on August 19, 1942, 4,100 men were killed, wounded or missing, the Canadians bearing the brunt of the casualties.

Derrick Hignett was characteristically modest about his wartime role but was invited as the senior Army representative to attend the 50th anniversary of the raid at Dieppe in 1992. Despite his advanced years, he was delighted to make the return visit.

John Derrick Hignett was born at Holly Bush Hall, Newborough, the Staffordshire home of the Meynells which his father — a scion of the famous tobacco family — was then renting. He was educated at Rugby and Sandhurst.

In 1920 he was commissioned into the 10th Hussars, served in Egypt and India and from 1932 to 1936 was seconded as adjutant to the Leicestershire Yeomanry. He also served as an instructor at the cavalry school at Weedon. Hignett was promoted lieutenant-colonel in 1940.

In 1934, with his wife Gwen and young family, he had moved to Langton Grange, near Market Harborough. With the exception of the war years, he dedicated the rest of his life to his adopted county of Leicestershire, taking a major part in country sports. Between 1935 and 1937 he was joint master of the Fernie, with Sir Harold Wernher. After the war he continued in this post for a further ten years as joint master with his close friend Colonel "Pen" Lloyd. A sportsman of the old school, Hignett was a trustee of the Fernie from 1937 until earlier this year, and president of the Fernie's Hunt Supporters since 1968.

Before the war he was a keen yachtsman, a member of the Royal Yacht Squadron and a fine naval mechanic. In the 1950s he bought a sporting estate at Kildermorie in the Scottish Highlands. His prowess at fishing and stalking was renowned, as was his enthusiasm for old cars — he had been motoring since 1917 and owned a Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud and a Humber Super Snipe.

He was appointed a JP for Leicestershire in 1946, deputy lieutenant for the county in 1950 and high sheriff in 1951. But most of all Hignett will be remembered locally as a communicator. Every man, woman and child in Market Harborough knew him well. He always enquired after their health when he met them, and remembered their names.

In 1927 he married Alys Gwendoline. She died in 1966, and he is survived by two sons and a daughter.

JEAN SABLON

Jean Sablon, French singer, died at Cannes-La Bocca, Alpes Maritimes, on February 24 aged 87. He was born in Nogent-sur-Marne, near Paris, on March 25, 1906.

JEAN SABLON, who was often described as the French Bing Crosby, had a considerable following in Britain and America in the 1940s. His fans at that time included the then Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret, according to an interview they gave to the American magazine *Time*. Their uncle, the Duke of Windsor, was another admirer from the 1930s when Sablon had a BBC contract.

The first French singer to use the microphone, Sablon made his name in France in music halls and cabarets, then went to the United States in 1937, where he grew the pencil-thin moustache that became his trademark. He helped to popularise swing in France by teaming up with the jazz violinist Stephane Grappelli and the gypsy guitarist Django Reinhardt.

London, where he had met Reinhardt, was also the scene of several prewar Sablon concerts and a top-of-the-bill appearance at the Palladium in 1948.

In France, however, Sablon's popularity in the immediate postwar period suffered because French audiences considered he had become too American during his long stays across the Atlantic. He had spent the war years in America and had become a CBS and NBC radio star.

The French did not appreciate, either, his new appearance, notably his thin, Clark Gable-style moustache, grown at the request of his American impresario who considered that it increased his "Frenchman's charm". Sablon went overseas again, but returned to reconquer Paris at the



Olympia music hall in the 1950s.

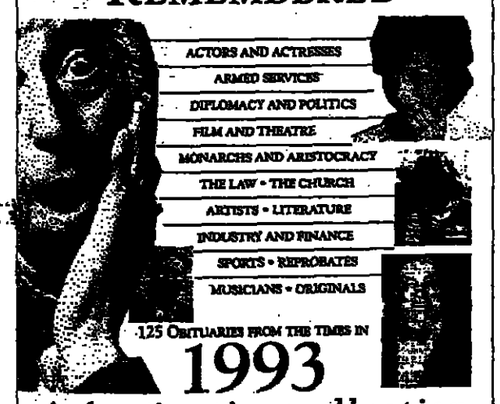
Jean Sablon was the son of a popular songwriter. He started in musical comedy but his big chance came in 1931 when he was spotted by the revue queen, Mistinguett, who chose him as her partner at the Casino de Paris. A Californian holiday in 1933 made him aware of the growing use of the microphone by American singers but his introduction of the new gadget at the Bobino music hall in 1936 caused a scandal. Sablon used the microphone to modulate the effect of his rather deep voice and to whisper intimately to the audience but critics said he was hiding a lack of voice. Some spectators, shocked at this break in tradition, walked out. For a while Sablon was pilloried by those irreverent cabaret artists, the chansonniers.

The furore died down and Sablon won the day, helped by the fact that he was an accomplished songwriter, many of whose songs, notably "Aimer comme je t'aime", "Les Arbres de Paris" and "Sur le Pont d'Avignon", became hits. His biggest success was a song written by Charles Trenet entitled "Vous qui passez sans me voir".

The Americans were the biggest lovers of his sentimental songs. His weekly radio show made him a star from coast to coast. George Gershwin and Cole Porter wrote for him and he appeared on Broadway in the musical *Streets of Paris*, with Carmen Miranda and Abbott and Costello. Judy Garland and Suzy Volterra were close friends, whom he often escorted to the races.

Sablon remained a life-long bachelor. He gave a first farewell concert at the age of 75 at the Lincoln Center in New York and another two years later at a gala in Rio de Janeiro.

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Church news

Appointments

The Rev Ronald Clarke, retiring Team Rector, Marlbrook Team Ministry (as from June 30), (Bath and Wells): to be Priest-in-charge, Churchstanton, Buckland St Mary and Otterford, on house for duty basis, same diocese.

The Rev Wendy Cranidge: to be Associate Rector, Farnborough w special resp for St Nicholas (Rochester).

The Rev Philip Denison, Priest-in-charge, St Leodegarius, Basford (Southwell): to be Vicar, Nether Stowey w Over Stowey (Bath and Wells).

The Rev Peter Fisher, Rector, Houghton le Spring (Durham): to be Principal, The Queen's College, Birmingham (Birmingham).

The Rev Gillian Francis, Parish Deacon, St Paul, Blackheath (Birmingham): to be Priest-in-charge, All Saints w St Andrew, Stechford, same diocese.

The Rev Martin Francis, Chaplain and Deputy Head of St John School, Leatherhead (Guildford): to be Rector, Herstmonceux and Wartling (Chichester).

The Rev Timothy Gosden, Senior Chaplain, Hull University (Hull): to be Vicar, St Peter, Lyngford, Taunton (Bath and Wells).

The Rev Jeffrey Gunn, Vicar, Holy Trinity, Larkfield: to be Vicar, St Francis, Petts Wood (Rochester).

The Ven Fred Hazell, recently retired Archdeacon of Croydon (Southwark): to be Bishop's Adviser in Pastoral Care and Counselling for clergy and families (Bath and Wells).

The Rev William Hopkinson, Bishop's Officer for Continuing Ministerial Education and Post Ordination Training (Chester), who is to be Priest-in-charge, Tenterden St Michael (Canterbury): to be *also* Secretary of Canterbury Diocesan Board of Ministry.

The Rev Richard Inglesby, Priest-in-charge, Farrington Gurney and Paulton (Bath and Wells): to be instituted after lifting of suspension of presentation of the living.

MR WILSON IS BACK IN DOWNING STREET

By David Wood
Political Editor

Mr Wilson last night returned from Buckingham Palace with a commission from the Queen to form a Labour government. Mr Heath had resigned as Prime Minister when he had an audience of the Queen at 6.30pm, and within the hour Mr Wilson had been summoned to be asked to attempt to lead a new Administration.

Mr Heath's decision to resign came after two meetings yesterday of the full Cabinet. All the evidence is that he carried his colleagues with him unanimously. At the second meeting at 10 Downing Street, the Cabinet had before them a statement from Mr Thorpe, the Liberal leader, formally and finally rejecting Mr Heath's proposal for a Conservative and Liberal coalition. At a meeting of the 14 Liberals in the Commons, the decision had been reached to call on Mr Heath and Mr Wilson to join in forming a government of national unity for a limited period of time.

In fact, the Queen appears at no point to have been advised to call all the three party leaders together in an attempt to establish a stable government that gives no party a working majority. Mr Heath and the Cabinet could not accept the Liberal proposal. Mr Wilson now has to go ahead to form an administration to govern Britain through a gathering industrial and economic crisis in the knowledge that he may have no more than two or three votes' majority over the Conservatives.

But last night Mr Heath made a statement in which he pledged his support "in whatever realistic measures a Labour government takes in the interest of all the people". There need be no doubt that when Mr Heath uttered those words he was profoundly conscious that only those who are now in government have any full understanding of the gravity of the situation that faces Britain and of the tasks that any new Administration will have to face.

Mr Wilson's first task is to appoint his senior ministerial colleagues, and last night at Westminster there was already widespread speculation that Mr Roy Jenkins, who commands the respect of most politicians in the Commons, may be brought back as Chancellor of the Exchequer. That would mean that another post would have to be found for Mr Denis Healey, the shadow Chancellor, who is nowadays a substantial figure in Labour politics in and outside Westminster.

The Labour Party starts with a majority over the Conservatives of five votes, which may be cut to two votes if Labour has to provide the three deputy chairmen of the Commons; and in addition there are 14 Liberals, 11 Ulster Unionists, nine nationalists, and four others (including the Speaker).

Assessing that precarious and shifting balance of strength in the Commons, Mr Wilson and his senior colleagues will know that they have no choice but to bring in a severely limited Queen's Speech with the emphasis on moderation and the politics of the centre.

ON THIS DAY

March 5 1974

In the February election Labour, with 301 MPs, could not command an overall majority. Nevertheless, the party survived until October when it surpassed that majority by just three seats.

Since 1988, the Government has been encouraging people to make their own provision for retirement. **Helen Pridham** reports

Planning for the future

Since July 1988, when they first became available for both employees and the self-employed, more than 14 million personal pension policies have been sold.

Although controversy has erupted recently over the wisdom of employees moving out of company schemes into personal plans, many people who have taken out personal pensions over the past six years have been those who did not previously have any private savings at all.

The growth of personal pensions is expected to increase. Not only are people realising they can no longer rely on the state to provide an adequate retirement income, but with jobs for life becoming a thing of the past, personal pensions will become more attractive.

A survey by Legal & General has found that companies are increasingly employing people on short-term contracts. Chris Hatry, of Legal & General, says: "Company pension schemes are best for employees who work for one employer for many years. For short-term employees, though, a personal pension plan to which an employer also contributes will make more sense." At present, few employers are willing to contribute to a personal pension.

It is the Government which has done most to encourage people to take out personal pensions. With the prospect of a steadily aging population, it saw the state pensions bill going through the roof.

While it seems to have backed down from doing away with a state pension altogether, the value of a state pension is rapidly diminishing. The link between increases in the basic state retirement pension and earnings has been severed for some time and the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (Serps) will also be scaled down from the turn of the century. By 2010, people who rely on the state alone will be retiring on a pension of less than a quarter of average earnings.

In order to motivate people to opt out of Serps and into a personal pension after 1988, the Government not only offered to rebate a proportion of employees' National Insurance contributions for investment in a personal pension, it also offered an extra 2 per cent per annum bonus for the first five years up to 1993.

> People are realising they can no longer rely on the state

The campaign proved effective. About 5.5 million people have opted out of Serps into a personal pension plan since 1988. The option was particularly attractive to people below middle age. As you get older, the cost of providing a pension gets higher, but the initial rebates made no allowance for age. But pension providers are expecting the Government to introduce a system of age-related rebates to avoid employees having to opt back into Serps as they get older.

However, any improvement in pension is likely to be only marginal unless people agree to make voluntary savings on top of their rebated Serps contributions. So far, it is estimated that only half of opted-out policyholders are making extra contributions.

Steve Bee, pensions manager at the Prudential, believes many people still underestimate the true cost of a pension. "If they are buying a house for £100,000, they realise the mortgage payments are going to be high. But they seem to think that you can get a decent pension for peanuts," he says.

Apart from employees opting out of Serps, the other growing group of workers for whom personal pensions are particularly important are the self-employed, who will qualify only for the minimum basic state retirement pension if they do not make their own pension provision.

As well as making membership of Serps optional in 1988, the Government also extended the same freedom to employees who were members of their employer's pension scheme. Previously employers had been able to make pension scheme membership a condition of employment.

Unfortunately, however, it is seldom advisable for existing employees to opt out of an employer's scheme and even if you move to another employer, the argument for transferring your accumulated benefits to a personal pension is not clear-cut either.

Yet, an investigation by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB) indicates that up to 500,000 people may have been wrongly advised to withdraw from company schemes and take out personal pension schemes instead.

Commission-hungry insurance salesmen are being blamed for the scandal. However, Mark Boleat, Director General of the Association of British Insurers, believes personal pensions have a bright future. "They are a very tax-efficient way for people to save for their retirement if they do not have access to a good company pension scheme."



Mark Boleat of the Association of British Insurers, who emphasises the tax-efficiency of personal pensions for those without a good company scheme

The ever-widening choice

Once only insurance companies sold personal pensions. Now, they face competition from all sides

Pensions were once the exclusive domain of the traditional insurance company. Now, they are offered by a variety of institutions: banks, building societies, unit and investment trust companies have all started selling personal pension plans. Even Marks & Spencer has announced its intention to enter the market.

Insurers are therefore facing competition at a time when they are having to grapple with the problems caused by the overzealous selling of personal pension policies to members of company pension schemes, and the new need to disclose the salesmen's commission.

Leading insurers believe they will weather the storm. Peter Timberlake, pensions spokesman at Legal & General, says: "I think people appreciate that the good we do outweighs our shortcomings."

The Prudential is Britain's largest personal pension provider. It started offering individual pension plans in the 1950s and now has nearly 900,000 personal pension plan holders. Most of its plans are sold through the "men from the Pru". Numbering 8,500, they are the largest direct sales force in Britain. Steve Bee, the Pru's pension expert, says: "Our research has shown that many people feel they do not understand pensions. They like to talk it through with a salesman."

Large sales forces have also enabled the leading unit-linked insurers, Allied Dunbar and Abbey Life, to gain major shares in the personal pension field. Other traditional insurers big in personal pensions include Standard Life and Equitable Life.

However, there is no doubt that the insurers are seeing growing competition for business. The banks, particularly TSB, Barclays, Lloyds and more recently NatWest, have become keen on the concept of "bancassurance", cross-selling personal pension plans and other insurance products to their current account customers.

Most building societies have been acting as tied agents of traditional insurers. But the Halifax and Nationwide have announced that they will be setting up their insurance subsidiaries which will undoubtedly start tapping into the pensions market.

Major unit trust companies, such as M & G and Save & Prosper, have had insurance subsidiaries for some time. Only Gartmore and Rothschild presently offer true unit trust personal pensions, Fidelity having withdrawn from the market.

Not to be put off by the might of the insurers, investment trust company Foreign & Colonial has also decided to launch an investment trust personal pension in the hope that it will attract investors with its good investment performance. Moreover, with full disclosure of commission soon to be forced on the insurance industry, consumers will be in a position to make much clearer comparisons of charges.

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From Goode to better

How can occupational schemes be protected? **Stuart James** reports on last year's committee findings

If the recent Consumers' Association campaign is to be believed, public confidence in financial advisers and pension schemes of all types can never have been lower.

Last year, Professor Roy Goode's Pension Law Review Committee carried out an extensive review of pension law governing employers' schemes. It was not part of its brief to look at personal pensions. It was clear in mid-1993, however, that there was widespread concern about people being wrongly persuaded to take a transfer payment from a company pension scheme into a personal pension scheme. The committee welcomed the action of SIB and the self-regulatory organisations in reviewing selling practices, and LAUTRO's 1992 guidance.

In looking at occupational pension schemes, the committee concluded that most were well-run and deserved the confidence of the public. The committee therefore recommended changes designed to bring all schemes up to the standard of the best schemes. These changes were consciously evolutionary rather than revolutionary. The report proposes that employers should in future be required to fund their pension schemes and that that funding should be tested by strict solvency standards.

The risk of fraud and theft would be picked up by a compensation scheme. Other recommendations concentrate on tightening up existing requirements, and on setting clear standards of best practice. For example, disclosure of the information to members could be made more effective if it were less detailed.

Information should be in plain English, and there should be time limits for producing accounts and valuations. There should be new penalties for a lot of the existing requirements, and a Regulator to monitor compliance. The scheme auditor and actuary should be under a duty to "blow the whistle" if they see evidence of irregularities. Members should have the right to appoint some of the trustees.

Most of these recommendations are uncontroversial. Taken together, they should produce a real improvement in security of benefits. The present state of play is that the Government has issued discussion documents. These distill the recommendations of the Goode Committee and invite further comment. The problem areas seem to be:

● **Funding:** It is difficult to find the right way of testing pension scheme solvency. Many well-funded schemes do not have enough assets to buy annuities from insurance companies to provide all the benefits, owing to current market conditions. The measure of solvency suggested by the Committee results in a gilt-based rather than an equity-based test, which is likely to distort a fund's investment choices, with a consequent impact on the equity market.

The danger for the employer is that a temporary fall in the equity market could cause the fund to fall below the required level of 90 per cent of the full solvency target. An employer would either have to maintain a higher solvency level to avoid the problem, or be prepared to make an immediate cash payment into the pension scheme.

● **Early leavers:** Deferred pensions are no longer frozen, but different levels of revaluation apply to different parts. These are not only complex, but they are linked partly to price inflation and partly to wage inflation.

● **Serps:** Most occupational pension schemes are contracted-out of Serps, and provide a guaranteed minimum pension (GMP) to replace it. Because it mirrors Serps, the calculation of the GMP is complicated. The only sensible way of making it less so is to break the link with Serps. This means the scheme pension may or may not fully replace the state earnings-related benefit. Some pension scheme members could gain from this and others could lose.

● **The regulator:** A crucial feature of the Goode Report is that, while investment management should remain the responsibility of the SIB and other self-regulatory organisations, there should be a regulator to oversee the regulation of other aspects of pension schemes. The proposal is that the cost of the regulator should be paid for out of public funds. The DSS is consulting over whether there is a better way.

ADRIAN BROOKS



Stuart James believes fresh rules are needed to increase the security of pension benefits

If law reform results in increasing the administrative complexity and expense of pension schemes, employers, who do not after all have to provide a pension scheme, may decide they have had enough. The Goode proposals were designed as a careful package. "Cherry-picking" will not work — for example, a compensation scheme without a minimum solvency level would be a disaster.

New regulation is intended to increase the security of pension benefits. If instead its result is to drive employers out of the business of providing adequate pensions for their employees, that would be the worst imaginable legacy that Robert Maxwell could have left behind.

● *The author is a partner of Rowe & Maw, and was the only lawyer represented on the Goode Committee.*

Education is the key to good sales advice

Transferring a pension requires meticulous information

Thousands of people who have lost valuable pension benefits because of bad advice will have months to wait before they hear how they will be compensated for their financial loss.

A steering committee set up by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB) is due to report shortly on how standards must be raised to prevent a recurrence of the scandal.

In some cases, for example where company benefits are not very generous, or where a flexible retirement age is needed, it may be sensible to transfer. But the benefits of many occupational schemes are far better than a personal pension and transferring could lead to loss in pension payments and extra benefits.

For example, public-sector employees such as health workers, teachers, the armed forces and civil servants all have excellent occupational schemes and should not leave them; many large private-sector schemes also offer benefits that personal pensions cannot match.

As individual circumstances always vary, advising on whether to take a pension transfer or not should involve detailed actuarial calculations to determine an accurate transfer value to compare the benefits of occupational and personal schemes.

Indication of widespread problems with pension transfers appeared before Christmas in a study commissioned by SIB. KPMG Peat Marwick, the accountants, reviewed the cases of 735 people who had been advised on pension transfers by a range of firms including banks, building societies, insurance companies and independent advisers.



Problems: Godfrey Jillings

They found that only 9 per cent of the files contained satisfactory evidence that the advice given had complied with all the major business rules. In most cases, there was too little information in the file for KPMG to judge whether correct advice had been given or not.

In its study, KPMG noted that lack of information in the files did not in itself mean that clients had necessarily been given advice that left them worse off financially. Since then, Godfrey Jillings, the chief executive of the regulatory body FIMBRA, has said he believes that only about 3 per cent of people who have transferred pension benefits since 1988 will eventually require compensation.

However, about 37 per cent of the cases KPMG examined were thought to be "suspect", showing "evidence of an apparently perverse recommendation, positive evidence of mis-selling, or of playing on emotive issues".

The SIB forthcoming report is likely to recommend higher levels of training and competence for pensions advisers. It may also endorse the use of computerised transfer value analysis systems, which help advisers to calculate the comparative benefits of company and personal schemes.

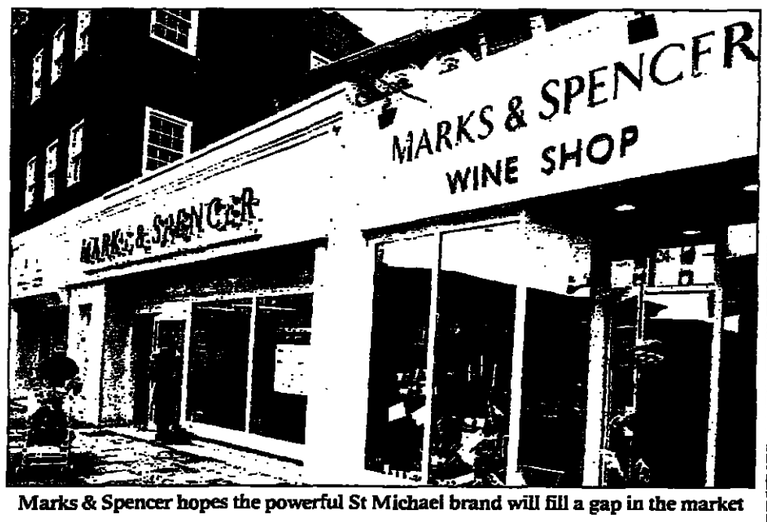
A second stage of the committee's report is expected in June, when more information on the exact scale of the problem will be published, together with details of how victims should be compensated.

CHRISTINE MICHAEL

● *The author is the editor of* Moneywise Magazine.

From next year Marks & Spencer is selling pensions

Are you safe in their hands?



Marks & Spencer hopes the powerful St Michael brand will fill a gap in the market

Shoppers would no doubt be taken aback if the Prudential began selling prawn sandwiches in the high street. But from January next year, Marks & Spencer customers will be able to buy pensions and life insurance policies via its stores.

In setting up its venture, Marks & Spencer hopes the powerful St Michael brand will fill a gap in the life insurance industry which is hardly renowned for its clean-cut, value-for-money image. "If you drew up a list of things that people feel are missing in the life industry — quality, value, intangible things such as trust — and a list of things the St Michael brand offers, they would probably match," a M & S spokesman says.

The as-yet unnamed company will begin operating in January 1995, coinciding with new rules that require salespeople to disclose the commission they will earn from selling policies. The 50-strong M & S salesforce, based in six major stores, will be salaried rather than relying on commission. "This was one of the first decisions we took," Robert Colville, Marks & Spencer's director of finance and financial activities, says. "We felt it very important to be open with our customers."

Like other salaried sales staff, M & S employees will reveal the cost component of their policies in line with a formula that has still to be agreed by the regulators. Customers will be able to make appointments to see a M & S adviser in branches and are promised no hard-sell or foot-in-the-door techniques.

The company believes that selling pensions and life assurance is a logical development of its existing financial services arm, which provides Marks & Spencer store cards, personal loans and unit trusts. Financial services customers give the company a database of almost three million names, compiled since 1984, many of whom will be targeted by direct mail advertising the new service.

M & S's charge cards are exclusive to the store and its personal loans are competitive. But in questioning how successful it might be in the pensions and life field, sceptics point to the uninspiring performance of its unit trusts.

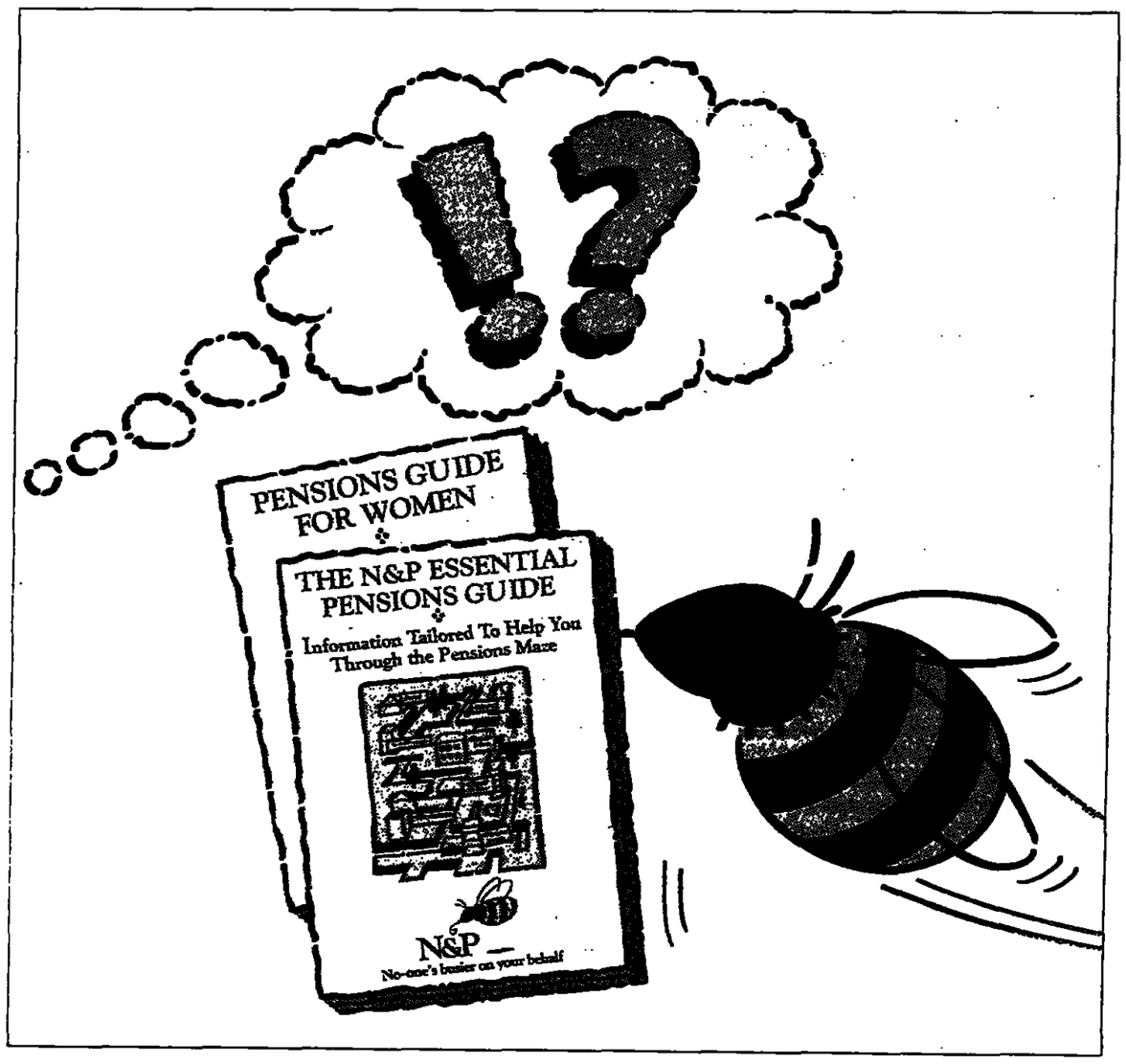
With funds of £276 million and 80,000 investors, Marks & Spencer Unit Trust Management is a middle-ranking unit trust company in its own right. It has two funds, the Investment Portfolio Account, which invests internationally, and the UK-based Select Portfolio Account. Unusually, management of these unit trusts is shared between six different investment houses, with — so far — less than sparkling success. Since their launch in October 1988 and October 1989 respectively, the two funds have produced only average returns for investors.

Mr Colville said that the Select Portfolio was not sold as a high performance fund and that the Investment Portfolio Account has outperformed the world markets it has invested in. He pointed out by contrast, the major determinant of value in a life policy is the front-end and annual costs, and said the M & S life company will "wait and see what happens in the market" when pricing its products.

It remains to be seen how far customers are willing to let St Michael take care of their retirement as well as their dinner parties and wardrobes.

CHRISTINE MICHAEL

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هكذا من الاصل

NEWS

Bosnia reinforcements planned

■ British defence officials were drawing up plans to send more troops to Bosnia as the UN commander in the former Yugoslav republic renewed his warning that without urgent reinforcements the peace process was in danger of falling apart.

Douglas Hurd made clear that the Government was preparing to bow to Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose's request for reinforcements ..... Pages 1, 14

Malaysia pays double for British radar

■ The Malaysian government is paying up to twice the normal price for British defence equipment under the arms deal that has been linked with the Pergau dam project, according to a GEC contract seen by *The Times* ..... Page 1

New spy chief

David Spedding, a career intelligence officer, was named by the Foreign Office as the next chief of the Secret Intelligence Service, succeeding Sir Colin McColl who retires in September ... Pages 1, 2

Head backed

Parents rallied behind a head teacher, sacked and reinstated for sitting a child on his knee during assembly, who had a further complaint made about him on his first day back ..... Page 3

Victory for Thorp

The Thorp nuclear plant will begin reprocessing spent fuel within weeks after a High Court judge ruled that the Government had not acted illegally in giving it the go-ahead ..... Page 5

Immigration racket

Customs officials believe they have broken an immigration smuggling racket with the seizure of 11 Turks discovered hidden in the back of a truck ..... Page 6

Paedophile trap

British paedophiles travelling to Thailand to prey on child prostitutes face a tough strategy being planned by police and Thai officials ..... Page 8

Car sales boost

Three of Britain's biggest vehicle plants are back on full-time working for the first time since last year after an 18 per cent rise in new car sales ..... Page 9

Crime offensive

John Smith, the Labour Leader, set the party's agenda for the local elections by attacking the Tories' record on crime ..... Page 10

Murder capital

The murder of a Roman Catholic priest has highlighted the perils of Jamaica's ghettos ..... Page 12

Whitewater victim

President Clinton's White House counsel was in grave danger of being forced to resign over the Whitewater scandal ..... Page 16

Salmon with chips lands poacher

■ One salmon that poacher Paul Williams gaffed in North Wales came with its own chips. In its stomach was a small radio transmitter used by scentists to track the movement of the fish. Water bailiffs traced the signals to Williams' home, and found the gleaming salmon on his kitchen table .....Page 1



Soldiers of the 38 Field Squadron Royal Engineers Regiment parading in front of the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin yesterday to mark their farewell from the city after 37 years. All allied troops leave Berlin this year

OPINION

Profound judgment: The repercussions of the *EOC Case* on the traditional constitutional balance are obvious. Its significance must not be lost ..... Page 19

Great game goes on: The new chief of MI6 inherits an organisation that has proved extraordinarily resilient in the face of changes ... Page 19

Feline fable: Tiffany, by her life and death, was the latest example to man of cat as a parable of endurance Page 19

PAPERS

It's striking that it has fallen to foreigners like Spielberg, an American Jew, to use the popular media to help teach the German public about the nation's painful history.

– Los Angeles Times

COLUMNS

SIMON JENKINS There are two ways of viewing such troops. The first is that they are vital cement for the ceasefires. Without them, Bosnia cannot build a lasting peace ... The second is that what they do will end up being the opposite. I take the second view ..... Page 18

SIR JAMES GOLDSMITH We need regional, not global, free trade ..... Page 18

OBITUARIES

Count Alexander Labinsky, singer; Hugh Tayfield, cricketer; Lt Col Derrick Hignett, Phantom Force leader; Jean Sablon, singer ..... Page 21

LETTERS

How history should be taught ..... Page 19

BUSINESS

Power sale: The Government is to sell its remaining £4 billion stake in National Power and PowerGen through a public offer ..... Page 25

Names warned: The High Court judge handling legal actions against Lloyd's of London agents warned litigating names there is unlikely to be enough money to go round ..... Page 25

Trade war fears: The Clinton Administration's reinstatement of its unilateral Super 301 trade weapon, aimed primarily at Japan, must also be seen as a "serious warning" to Europe, a senior Brussels official said ..... Page 25

Markets: London shares ended the week on a high note ..... Page 28

SPORT

Parkhead battle: Directors of Celtic were locked in takeover negotiations yesterday as Fergus McCann, a Scots Canadian millionaire, fought to gain control of the debt-ridden Glasgow football club ..... Page 48

Paris match: England's rugby union team have failed to score a try in their last four international matches. David Hands examines the factors that will make or break their reputation in France Page 48

Pitching in: South Africa's cricketers were bowled out for 251 by Australia in Johannesburg in the first Test match between the nations in the Republic since 1970. At close, Australia were 34 without loss .....Page 47

SATURDAY

VISION



De Niro's greatest: Channel 4 celebrates *The Deer Hunter* star ..... Page 3

Auntie analysed: Mary Goldring assesses the BBC ..... Page 6

Wogan's lore: Roll up for a new series ..... Page 5

WEEKEND



Write on: Polly Toynbee reviews Shere Hite and sex in the 1990s ..... Page 17

Back to the roots: Libby Purves meets George Plumptre, the new *Times* gardener, and unearths his love of nature ..... Page 1

Morning glory: Ruth Gledhill is inspired by the warmth of Anglican worship in York ..... Page 2

Young at heart: What to tell the children? Janet Daley with a parents' guide to sex instruction Page 3

Love in the fast lane: Alice Thomson on passion and the Porsche ..... Page 15

Make the break: Get away for Easter ..... Page 24

WEEKEND ARTS



Four hours of amusement: At the Barbican, Yukio Ninagawa's new production of *Peer Gynt* leavens the prospect of four hours of Ibsen by setting the whole thing in an amusement arcade, complete with video games ..... Page 5

Week in the Arts: A new, wry look at cultural matters delves into the continuing row over school productions of the musical *Oliver!* ..... Page 5

Reviews: The week's top recordings — pop and classical — plus the latest films on video, and an assessment of the computer-age encyclopaedias now available on compact disc ..... Pages 6,7

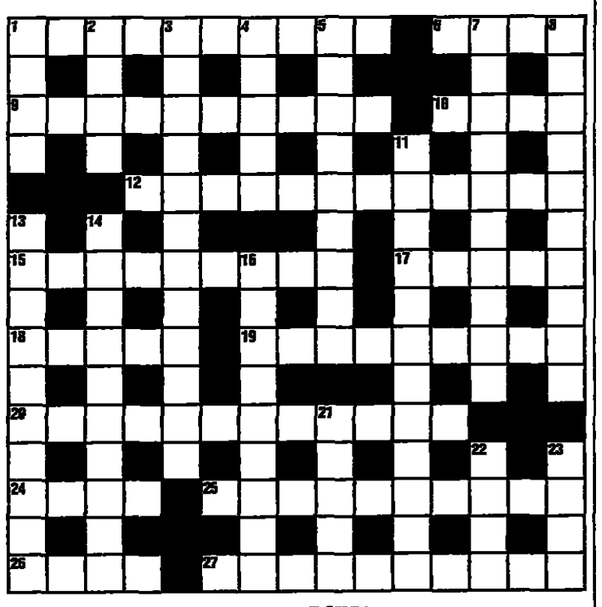
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,482

KNOCKANDO

A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a beautifully crafted stationery rack, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address .....

.....



ACROSS

1 Sweet heart to dally in a gazebo is wrong (10).
6 Made haste to take cover, according to hearsay evidence (4).
9 Incy-wincy spider was lost (2,3,5).
10 Hand is bid (4).
12 Plain girl, with dry sort of voice – that's about right (12).
15 Sentimental book about island and lake (9).
17 Port I kept in casks (5).
18 Regretting undoing note (5).
19 Messy part played by M, for instance (9).
20 Drink makes woman, outwardly keen, start to become amorous (6,6).
24 French cleric, a bishop, housed in Lincoln (4).
25 Discourage passing internal exam (10).
26 P.M.'s garden (4).
27 Humorist drawled badly, attracting attention (6,4).

DOWN

1 God responsible for overthrow of town (4).
2 Clean city (4).
3 Among the vegetables, identify gardening talent (5,7).
4 What a computer worked on originally is not perhaps used today (5).
5 Listen to amphibian gathering without prejudice (9).
7 One vine brought into the gallery from Orvieto, perhaps (10).
8 Sir Patrick's put in the record where to find medicine (10).
11 Tory scandal involved money once circulating in police headquarters (8,4).
13 One butts in to deplore fall in value (10).
14 "It's obvious election's been rigged", Jack interposed (10).
16 Made enquiries about river rising – and was red-faced as a result? (9).
21 An artist receives an order for a bouquet (5).
22 Increase in turnover is encouraging (4).
23 Rupert Brooke, say (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,476

T	I	B	E	T		S	O	M	E	T	I	M	E	S
O		A		E		A		E		R		A		C
T	E	N	T	A	C	L	E	D		E	N	N	U	I
A		T		C		V		I		A		H		O
L	A	U	G	H	L	I	K	E	A	D	R	A	I	N
I				E		A		V		L		N		
S	U	B	O	R	N		L	A	V	E	N	D	E	R
E		U		I		L		L		E				
R	E	L	E	V	A	N	T		A	B	B	E	S	S
		G		E		U		S		U				U
S	P	A	R	R	I	N	G	P	A	R	T	N	E	R
C		R		E		D		U		G		A		G
R	H	I	N	O		A	G	R	E	E	A	B	L	E
U		A		S		T		I		S		O		N
M	I	N	C	E	M	E	A	T		S	A	B	O	T

Solution to Puzzle No 19,481

G	E	N	I	T	I	V	E		T	E	M	P	E	R
O		O		R		E			A		A		E	
S	E	R	G	E	A	N	T		S	T	A	S	I	S
S		M		N		U		S		E		T		I
I	S	A	A	C		S	A	T	I	N	W	O	O	D
P		N		H		F		A			R		E	
		B	A	L	L	A	N	D	C	H	A	I	N	
S		C		N		Y		D		O		L		T
H	E	A	R	T	S	T	R	I	N	G	S			
A		M			R		N		N		F		P	
B	O	O	M	E	R	A	N	G		I	D	L	E	R
B		M		N		P		R		S		E		E
I	C	I	E	S	T		D	O	W	A	G	E	R	S
E		L		U			O		N		C		E	
R	E	E	L	E	D		A	M	E	T	H	Y	S	T

Some letters advising competitors of their success in the Eliminator puzzle for the Bristol and London finals of The Times Crossword Championship were unfortunately put in the wrong envelopes. Will all recipients of such letters please attend the venue of their choice; no further confirmation is necessary.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts, Glouce, Avon, Soms	705
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	706
Beds, Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops, Hereffds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest 24 hours AA traffic and road-works information, dial 0336 401 followed by the code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Becks/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Herts	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
6.38 am	5.48 pm
Moon sets	Moon rises
10.47 am	2.21 am

New moon 11 March

London 5.48 pm to 6.38 am
Bristol 5.57 pm to 6.47 am
Edinburgh 5.55 pm to 6.55 am
Manchester 5.54 pm to 6.48 am
Penzance 6.10 pm to 6.58 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
3.12 am	5.49 pm
Moon sets	Moon rises
11.50 am	3.12 am

New moon 11 March

London 5.49 pm to 6.38 am
Bristol 5.59 pm to 6.45 am
Edinburgh 5.57 pm to 6.52 am
Manchester 5.56 pm to 6.46 am
Penzance 6.12 pm to 6.56 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6.55	6.47	7.27	6.23
Aberdeen	6.46	3.60	7.36	3.61
Avonmouth			12.22	10.73
Belfast	4.25	2.97	5.13	3.02
Cardiff			12.07	10.02
Devonport	11.08	4.5	11.42	4.5
Dover	4.06	5.95	4.41	5.57
Falmouth	10.38	4.3	11.12	4.3
Glasgow	5.35	4.4	5.56	4.4
Harwich	4.49	3.65	5.21	3.36
Holyhead	3.30	4.75	4.18	4.57
Hull	11.37	6.34		
Ilfracombe	11.17	7.42	11.55	7.23
King's Lynn	11.39	5.3		
Leith	8.02	4.74	8.48	4.68
Liverpool	4.19	8.09	4.57	7.76
Lowestoft	2.40	2.32	3.06	2.12
Margate	4.57	4.37	5.33	4.12
Milford Haven	11.36	5.58		
Newquay	10.37	5.7	11.19	5.6
Oban	11.00	2.8		
Penzance	10.25	4.5	11.01	4.5
Portland	11.38	1.5		
Portsmouth	4.21	4.1	5.06	4.0
Shoreham	4.11	5.29	4.49	4.99
Southampton	4.07	4.10	4.54	3.93
Swansea	11.49	7.84		
Tees	9.12	4.51	9.57	4.45
Wlton-on-Nze	4.45	3.84	5.19	3.53

Winners of last Saturday's competition were: R C Narkham, South Nutfield, Surrey; M Hargrove, Bude, Cornwall; M Hammerton, Newcastle upon Tyne; J T Connor, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands; S Armitage, Hay Green Lane, Birmingham.

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FORECAST

☐ **General situation:** Most of England and Wales will have a wet and windy start, although it will be dry at first in East Anglia and the South East. The rain will clear southeastwards with brighter, more showery weather spreading to most places by early afternoon. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have bright spells and showers that will become more frequent through the day, with sleet in places and snow in the north and over the mountains. Winds will be fresh to strong in most places.

☐ **London, S E England, E Anglia:** dry start then rain, then drier and brighter again. Wind southwest fresh, becoming west moderate. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, S W England, S and N Wales, N W England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N and N E England:** rain clearing, then sunny spells and scattered showers. Wind southwest fresh, becoming west. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, S W Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland:** Showers. Wind strong southwest. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Moray Firth:** sunny spells, the odd shower. Wind fresh to strong southwest. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Central Highlands, N E Scotland, N W Scotland:** Sleet or snow showers. Wind strong to gale southwest. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** Showers. Wind strong to gale southwest. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Outlook:** Remaining unsettled with rain spreading from west.

AROUND BRITAIN

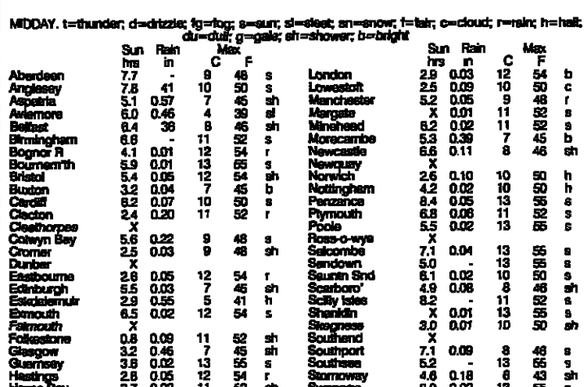
MIDDAY. t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain; h=hail; du=dull; g=gale; sh=shower; b=bright

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	7.7	-	9	48	s	London	2.9	0.03	12	54	b
Anglesey	7.8	41	10	50	s	Lowestoft	2.5	0.09	10	50	c
Aspatria	5.1	0.57	7	45	sh	Manchester	5.2	0.05	9	48	r
Aviemore	6.0	0.46	4	39	sl	Margate	X	0.01	11	52	s
Belfast	6.4	36	8	46	sh	Minehead	6.2	0.02	11	52	s
Birmingham	6.6	-	11	52	s	Morecambe	5.3	0.39	7	45	b
Bognor R	4.1	0.01	12	54	r	Newcastle	6.6	0.11	8	46	sh
Bournem'th	5.9	0.01	13	55	s	Newquay	X				
Bristol	5.4	0.05	12	54	sh	Norwich	2.6	0.10	10	50	h
Buxton	3.2	0.04	7	45	b	Nottingham	4.2	0.02	10	50	h
Cardiff	6.2	0.07	10	50	s	Penzance	6.4	0.05	13	55	s
Clacton	2.4	0.20	11	52	r	Plymouth	6.8	0.06	11	52	s
Cleethorpes	X					Poole	5.5	0.02	13	55	s
Colwyn Bay	5.6	0.22	9	48	s	Ross-o-wye	X				
Cromer	2.5	0.03	9	48	sh	Salcombe	7.1	0.04	13	55	s
Dunbar	X					Sandown	5.0	-	13	55	s
Eastbourne	2.6	0.05	12	54	r	Saunin Snd	6.1	0.02	10	50	s
Edinburgh	5.5	0.03	7	45	sh	Scarboro'	4.9	0.08	8	46	sh
Eskdalemuir	2.9	0.55	5	41	h	Scilly Isles	8.2	-	11	52	s
Exmouth	6.5	0.02	12	54	s	Shanklin	X	0.01	13	55	s
Falmouth	X					Skegness	3.0	0.01	10	50	sh
Folkestone	0.8	0.09	11	52	sh	Southend	X				
Glasgow	3.2	0.46	7	45	sh	Southport	7.1	0.09	8	46	s
Guernsey	3.8	0.02	13	55	s	Southsea	5.2	-	13	55	s
Hastings	2.8	0.05	12	54	r	Stornoway	4.6	0.18	6	43	sh
Herne Bay	3.7	0.02	11	52	sh	Swanage	6.0	0.02	13	55	s
Hove	1.7	0.02	12	54	b	Teignmouth	7.1	0.02	13	55	s
Hunstanton	3.5	0.03	9	48	sh	Tenby	7.7	0.08	11	52	s
Isle of Man	7.6	0.13	9	48	s	Tiree	5.0	0.15	8	46	h
Jersey	4.7	0.04	12	54	b	Torquay	X				
Kinloss	7.2	0.02	8	46	sh	Tynemouth	6.0	0.05	8	46	s
Leeds	5.8	0.13	9	48	sh	Ventnor	6.4	-	12	54	s
Lerwick	5.7	0.09	7	45	h	West-s-mare	6.1	-	11	52	s
Leuchars	5.9	0.06	7	46	s	Weymouth	5.7	0.01	12	54	s
Littlehmptn	4.1	0.02	12	54	sh	Wick	X				
Liverpool	6.8	0.09	8	46	s	These are Thursday's figures					

ABROAD

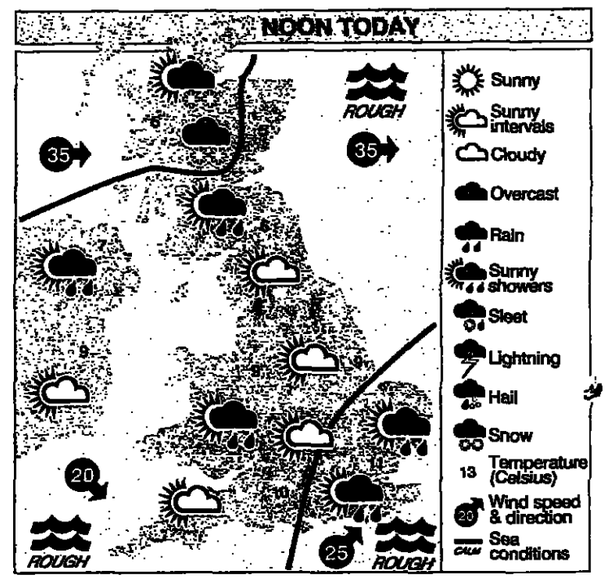
Ajaccio	16	61	s	C'phagn	3	37	f	Majorca	19	66	s	Rome	15	59	f
Alicante	17	63	f	Corfu	14	57	f	Malaga	18	64	s	Salzburg	5	41	sl
Alex'dria	18	64	s	Dublin	11	52	c	Malta	17	63	s	S Frisco	16	61	f
Algiers	19	66	s	Dubrownik	14	57	c	Melb'rne	17	63	c	Santiago	29	84	s
Amst'dm	9	48	s	Faro	21	70	s	Mexico C	20	68	f	S Paulo	21	70	c
Athens	17	63	f	Florence	17	63	s	Miami	21	70	f	Seoul	7	45	c
Bahrain	22	72	s	Frankfurt	8	46	f	Milan	18	64	s	Sing'por	29	84	f
Bangkok	33	91	f	Geneva	10	50	s	Montreal	-5	23	c	Sndholm	-2	28	f
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	17	63	s	Moscow	-6	21	s	Stresb'rg	11	52	s
Barcelona	17	63	s	Helsinki	-6	21	sn	Munich	6	43	f	Sydney	23	73	s
Beirut	17	63	f	Hong K	19	66	s	Nairobi	29	84	f	Tangier	20	68	s
Belgrade	8	46	f	Innsbruck	9	48	f	Naples	15	59	c	Tel Aviv	17	63	s
Berlin	6	43	f	Istanbul	13	55	s	N Delhi	27	81	s	Tenerife	20	68	s
Bermuda	21	70	r	Jeddah	31	88	s	N York	1	34	d	Tokyo	10	50	f
Biarritz	16	61	s	Jo'burg	17	63	t	Nice	15	59	s	Toronto	1	34	s
Borde'x	13	55	c	Karachi	32	90	s	Oslo	-1	30	s	Tunis	19	66	f
Brussels	9	48	f	L Palmas	20	68	t	Paris	10	50	s	Valencia	19	66	s
Budapst	5	41	c	Le Tquet	10	50	f	Peking	5	41	s	Vanc'ver	9	48	r
B Aires	29	84	s	Lisbon	16	61	s	Perth	33	91	s	Venice	12	54	s
Cairo	21	70	s	Locarno	17	63	s	Prague	4	39	c	Vienna	7	45	f
Cape Tn	30	86	s	L Angels	18	61	s	Reykjavik	-2	28	f	Warsaw	5	41	f
Chicago	5	41	s	Luxembg	8	46	s	Rhodes	18	64	s	Wash'ton	3	37	c
Ch'church	18	64	s	Luxor	30	86	s	Rio de J	27	81	f	Wel'ngton	21	70	s
Cologne	9	48	f	Madrid	18	64	s	Riyadh	25	77	s	Zurich	9	48	s

X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: Low 0 will move NE. High F will extend W to form a large area of high pressure in the Atlantic and Mediterranean

NOON TODAY



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THURSDAY: 9.00-8.00
MONDAY to SATURDAY: 9.00-6.00

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Standard Stool ~~£361.81~~ £243.23

Standard Chair (Illustrated in Brocatelle) ~~£1474.63~~ £957.92

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The items above are a small sample of a huge range available and include covering in a George Smith fabric. Many other coverings are available or customers may supply their own. Prices will vary accordingly. All furniture in this sale is available as stock or made to order, and is hand crafted, hand sprung and made of only the finest quality materials. Please phone for catalogue or further information.

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PROFILE 27

Getting the chemistry right at Zeneca



MELVYN MARCKUS 26

Our City Editor attacks high pay for low performance



SPORT 42-48

Dunwoody counts cost of ban in Cheltenham week

WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES
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THE TIMES

SATURDAY MARCH 5 1994

Generators' stake to be sold for £4bn

BY ROSS TIEMAN AND JONATHAN PRYNN

■ The sale of the Government's remaining stakes in National Power and PowerGen will bring the total cash raised through privatisations to more than £55 billion

THE government is to sell its remaining stakes in National Power and PowerGen, worth £4 billion, through a public offer during the next financial year.

Disposal of the outstanding 40 per cent holdings in the two electricity generating companies will signal the end of a 13-year, £55.5 billion programme of privatisation through public flotations.

Since British Coal is set to be sold by tender, and the Post Office will apparently not be privatised until the next Parliament, if ever, the generators' sale is the last foreseeable opportunity for small investors to participate in the government sale programme.

The decision to proceed with the sale was revealed yesterday in a Commons written reply from Stephen Dorrell, the Treasury Financial Secretary. Mr Dorrell said the Government planned to appoint a merchant bank to handle the sale "shortly". Disposal would take place in "1994-95", but no decisions had been taken "on the precise timing, size or structure of any sales".

Alistair Darling, Labour's City spokesman, said: "This is the last of the family silver. The Government is selling off the stocks to pay off its debts and after that there is nothing left."

City analysts expect a public offer of shares either in October, ahead of the November Budget, or in February 1995. To realise its aim of raising £5.5 billion from asset sales next year, the Treasury is expected to seek about £2 billion from the sale initially, with a second £2 billion instalment payable in mid-1995.

The cash is needed to fill the shortfall that is expected to remain after receipt of the £1.6 billion final instalment from the BT3 sale and an expected £1.8 billion from the sale of debts of privatised corporations. Salomon Brothers, the American securities house, was appointed this week to handle the debt sale. Invitations to bid to handle the generators' sale were sent out yesterday.

Many City securities houses are already advisers to the two generators. Barclays de Zoete Wedd and Kleinwort Benson are believed to be leading contenders to handle the sale, but foreign-owned groups are also being invited to bid.

The original flotation of 60 per cent of the power companies, in March 1991, realised £2.1 billion.

Both companies have made massive economies since moving into the private sector, which have dramatically improved their profitability. National Power, which provides a third of the electricity consumed in England and Wales, has shed all but 6,000 of its original 17,000 employees and cut capacity from 30,000 to 23,000 megawatts. It retains 30 power stations; two-thirds are coal-burning and the rest a mixture of oil, gas and modern combined-cycle gas plants. Because of its dominant market share, the company has been obliged to shrink its UK business, concentrating instead on building up assets overseas. National Power now has interests in plants in Portugal, Spain, India and Pakistan.

PowerGen, which supplies about a quarter of the electricity consumed in England and Wales, announced yesterday that it was mothballing capacity at three more plants, bringing its total capacity down to 17,000 megawatts, compared with 20,000 before privatisation.

Like National Power, the company has concentrated on shedding surplus capacity and staff since privatisation; the number of employees has fallen from 10,000 to 4,700. PowerGen has ten large coal and oil plants, as well as three combined-cycle gas power stations.



MARTIN BEDDALL

Higher profile: an Everest climber scaled the 130 ft main atrium window of the Lloyd's of London building in the City yesterday. The event, involving ten climbers, was to raise funds and public awareness for the British Mount Everest Medical Expedition team, which is planning an expedition in June. It was also raising funds for the Church Missionary Society. The expedition's objectives are to research into altitude-related illness, examine the microbial quality of water and look at new ways of disposing of human waste.

Judge tells Lloyd's litigants the money may fall short

BY SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

THE High Court judge handling legal actions against Lloyd's of London agents has warned litigating names that there is unlikely to be enough money to go round — even if their claims are valid.

Mr Justice Cresswell said that it was necessary to impress on names that "there is a distinct possibility, even if the claims are sound in law, that there may be insufficient money to satisfy them all".

The judge also drew attention to the costs of the forthcoming string of legal actions, which lawyers involved in the disputes estimate could reach £100 million. He said that solicitors and barristers had a "heavy responsibility" to ensure that cases are conducted efficiently, costs to the parties are contained and unnecessary delay is avoided.

The judge's remarks came after a review of pending cases in an attempt to assess the court's workload and how to handle it. More than 17,000 loss-making names are suing dozens of Lloyd's agents to try to recover losses exceeding £3.5 billion. Last month, names rejected an offer of £900 million from Lloyd's, acceptance of which would have required them to give up litigation rights for specific years.

The court plans to divide cases into LMX, long-tail, run-off contract, reinsurance to close, personal stop loss, portfolio selection and central fund litigation.

There are six LMX action groups with claims totalling more than £1.5 billion. The Gooda Walker Action Group is first in court, in April. Its case is expected to set precedents on liability and, if appropriate, principles for quantum.

There are 13 long-tail action groups, claiming about £2 billion, and management of these cases is "particularly complex", the judge said. As a result, he has asked lawyers to "meet urgently" to try to ensure that the early trials deal with as wide a range of issues as possible. Some preliminary issues arise in the Pulbrook action, currently in court.

O'Reilly seeks MGN referral

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

TONY O'Reilly is understood to have mounted a last-ditch attempt to block the bid for *The Independent* announced this week by a consortium led by Mirror Group Newspapers. The Irish businessman is believed to have written to Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, urging him to refer the takeover to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The consortium said this week that its £74.4 million offer for Newspaper Publishing (NPP), owner of *The Independent* and the *Independent on Sunday*, will lapse in the event of an MMC enquiry.

Mr O'Reilly, who owns 29.9 per cent of NPP, has refused to accept the consortium's offer of 355p cash for his holding. The consortium's offer document, which will be delivered to shareholders this weekend, is believed to contain provisions, which exclude him from the trade board and the operating board of NPP.

The consortium brings together MGN, NPP's main Spanish and Italian shareholders and Andreas Whittam Smith, *The Independent*'s founding editor.

It is thought that opt-out agreements between the consortium members, which could be triggered if certain profit targets are not met, could give MGN first call on shares should other members decide to sell, leading to eventual control. The Spanish and Italians would also have first call on MGN's holding in such circumstances.

US trade weapon seen as threat to Europe

BY COLIN NARBROUGH IN LONDON AND JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO



Sutherland: deplored Super 301

AMERICA'S reinstatement of its unilateral Super 301 trade weapon must be seen as a "serious warning" to Europe, despite being aimed primarily at Japan, according to a senior European Union trade official.

The official, who declined to be identified, said the threat to the EU was, however, likely to be limited to trade areas not included in the Uruguay round agreement, such as government procurement, where America is pressing to open up European markets. However, Sir Leon Brittan, the European trade commissioner, denied that the Gatt deal on freer world trade, concluded in December, was unravelling as a result of a US-Japanese trade row. He said the EU joined Peter Sutherland, the Gatt chief, in deploring unilateral actions such as Super 301 sanctions. Sir Leon renewed his call for a trilateral approach that would allow the EU, Japan and America to try to overcome the problem of Japan's huge trade surplus.

Japan's government and business communities reacted sharply to the Super 301 decision, a move that threatens only to increase tension in a highly strained bilateral relationship. Further deterioration in the US-Japanese trade relations would adversely affect world trade and has aroused fears that the Uruguay round agreement could be in jeopardy.

Japanese officials retorted in private that Washington's move, which authorises President Clinton to impose trade sanctions on Japan if its trading practices are judged unfair, constituted an unworkable and ill-conceived threat. A director general at Japan's Ministry of International Trade said: "We will have no hesitation in taking the issue to Gatt if sanctions are implemented. I think Clinton has gone too far, there is no question that he will be the loser."

The US decision is the latest salvo to be fired against Tokyo following the stalemate reached in bilateral summit trade talks last month when Morihiro Hosokawa, the Japanese Prime Minister, refused to agree to American demands that Japan accept "numerical targets" for opening its markets.

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 3278.0 +31.5

DOW JONES 3843.28 +18.86

Midday trading figure

THE POUND

Dm 2.5624 +0.0081

US $ 1.4900 -0.0053

GOLD

$376.85 per oz

BRENT CRUDE

$13.50 per barrel (Apr)

6pm

LONDON CLOSING PRICES

MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 28, SHARE PRICES PAGE 41

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

WEEKEND MONEY

HARD TIMES



Divorce, as Tammy Wynette once sang, is a sad business. It can wreck a healthy bank balance. How couples can soften the blows
Page 29

SOFT OPTION

All you need to know about buying a pension: the questions to ask, and how to avoid the hard sell
Pages 30 and 31

HOT LINE

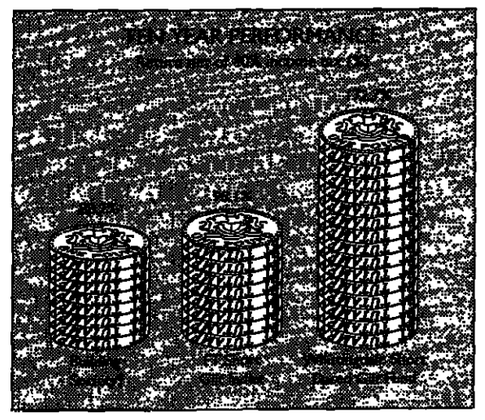


Let your fingers do the dealing: a guide to the best telephone share dealing services
Page 33

COLD FACTS

Special offers abound in the Pep price wars, but investors should still take care to check performance records
Page 37

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Roll up for the salary vaudeville



MELVYN MARCKUS

Strange, is it not, how the troupe at Westminster, whose show has been running for the best part of 15 years, constantly appears taken aback by events which, as far as the casual observer is concerned, have been common knowledge for . . . let's say 15 years.

Take Kenneth Clarke, a worldly enough figure with, so it is said, distinctly worldly ambitions. Clarke hit the headlines *on Thursday following an interview* with *Today* in which he attacked boardroom greed. In Clarke's words: "I disapprove of some of the high executive salaries paid by British companies and I wish more of our business leaders showed a decent level of restraint."

The Chancellor's perspective was that in view of lower tax rates "people should think twice before allowing their boards to award them excessively high salaries". That said, Clarke was quick to add: "I don't think any politician or government has the power to intervene and stop people being paid by their companies."

These few words proved the cue for Westminster's bit players. Enter, stage left, Gordon Brown. "Why impose VAT on fuel when the Government should be ending the tax privileges which are central to some of the worst boardroom salary abuses in the country? If the Chancellor really wants to act on the unacceptable *face of capitalism (time for a new* script writer, Gordon), will he condemn John Cahill's tax free hand out, condemn Lord Young's £370,000 salary rise in one year and fully tax executive share options?" That, according to Brown, would raise £200 million. Or is there, under this Government, he asked, "one tax law for boardrooms and another for everyone else?"

Clarke stressed that he "frequently" urged restraint on those who lead British industry, at a time when we must "maintain our competitiveness and maintain low inflation".

An interesting perspective, not least because, on the very same day, Stephen Dorrell, Treasury Financial Secretary, bluntly informed leaders of 5.5 million public sector employees, at a TUC conference, that "any increases in pay will have to be funded, not from increased recoursesto the taxpayer for the same level of output, but by better efficiency".

Back at the SW1 vaudeville, the John who won the last election informed the John who lost that, in his view "excessive pay awards are not justified". Another vacancy for a script writer! After dazzling the House with this piece of rhetoric, Major stressed that this was a matter "between employer and employee or company and management, rather than a matter for the Government". The rule, clearly, was: don't forget the rider.

John the Loser pointed out that whatever the PM says "top executives do not pay a blind bit of notice". In Smith's words: "They carry on regardless, relentlessly increasing their pay and their perks." Smith also carried on: "Does not the PM appreciate the anger felt throughout the country at massive pay increases for top people occurring at the same time as massive tax increases for the rest of the country?" (Smith is something of an expert on how the prospect of higher taxes impacts on the public psyche). "Why," asked Smith, with wide-eyed innocence, "are the Government so soft and indulgent on the very rich but hard and unfair on everyone else?"

The answer, just conceivably, might have been "because we are Tories", but that is not the sort of thing that John the Winner would say. Instead he chose to repeat his immortal line: "I do not believe that excessive salary increases are right."

At this point, the word "*interruption*" was politely inserted into *Hansard*. Then came the PM's finale: "For the Hon. Gentleman who shouts, 'What are you going to do about it?' may I say that this happens to be a free capitalist country, in which companies determine their wages."

So there we have it, or have not. The Chancellor enjoys some favourable headlines, varying from "Clarke urges restraint on top salaries" to "Clarke hits out at fat cat bosses" for referring to practices which, throughout the life of this Government, have been a matter of public debate. Major, one can safely assume from the above, only becomes aroused by this subject when anyone has the temerity to suggest that the Government might consider taking action.

Alan Beith, Treasury spokesman for the Liberal Democrats, called for a rise in the top tax rate to 50 per cent for those earning £500,000 per annum. A pretty liberal perspective, bearing in mind that the average salary is in the region of £18,000. Why not a 50 per cent *increase* in the top tax rate to 60 per cent at a level of £100,000, or £200,000, or £250,000? Beith's £500,000 is, after all, 27.7 times the average crust.

This, however, is idle speculation because Major's Government, note the riders, has no intention of taking fiscal measures to penalise boardroom excesses. Nor, as Sir Owen Green recently argued, are such excesses merely related to salaries. The boardroom lucky dip embraces *bonuses (for succeeding* in achieving what one receives a salary for) and potentially lucrative share option arrangements.

All of which serves to reinforce the belief that the Cadbury Committee's faith in the ability of non-executive directors to enforce restraint, via remuneration committees, is ill-founded. Since when has the presence of the great and the good in Britain's boardrooms (hardly a new phenomena) heralded a clampdown on remuneration?

High salaries paid to *successful* entrepreneurs (with success measured over the long term) will remain controversial. But *what is really obscene are the six* figure sums regularly pressed into the palms of the clowns who confused gearing with growth as they head towards the door marked "exit".

Tax fears curb borrowing

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

FINAL Bank of England figures, issued yesterday, showed that bank lending to companies and consumers in January rose by a seasonally adjusted £100 million, half the figure given in the provisional data. The rise was the lowest for over a year.

City economists said the figures indicated that looming tax increases in April were making firms and individuals reluctant to borrow. Net mortgage lending, seasonally adjusted, totalled £1.6 billion, slightly down on December but well up on the same time last year.

Gross mortgage lending *dropped to £4.15 billion*, from £4.79 billion in December. Forward-looking approvals data show a fractional increase, to £4.33 billion.

Total January gilts sales were higher than expected, at £1.98 billion.

☐ US unemployment fell unexpectedly last month to 6.5 per cent, from 6.7 per cent in January.

Cookson sale will finish restructuring

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

COOKSON Group, the industrial materials concern, is close to the sale of a clutch of underperforming aluminium and lead companies. A sale in the next couple of weeks would complete the wide-ranging restructuring of Cookson that has taken place since the company's financial rescue three years ago.

Richard Oster, the chief executive, and fellow directors yesterday refused to comment on any disposal as the precious metals to plastics group announced figures showing pre-tax profits up from £59.9 million to £95 million in the year to December 31. A sale of the bulk aluminium smelting and dry casting business and two lead companies is, however, thought to be imminent, with market estimates placing a value of between £50 million and £80 million on them.

A third of the 59 per cent pre-tax profits rise came from exchange-rate benefits, the balance representing like-for-like growth. The figures were ahead of market forecasts and the shares rose 11p, to 264p.

Robert Malpas, chairman, said that the US, which accounts for about a half of sales, was particularly strong in the last quarter. US sales had risen by 28 per cent and operating profits were 44 per cent ahead during the year. That performance had continued into the current financial year, and Britain was picking up. There was still concern about continental economies, but Cookson felt that Germany, at least, had reached the bottom of the cycle.

The group is paying a 3.3p final dividend, raising the total from 6p to 6.3p, out of earnings per share that rose 51 per cent to 12.1p. Further acquisitions are contemplated. However, Mr Malpas said: "We have an excellent business on which to build — we don't see the need to diversify outside that."

Tempus, page 27

JOHN MANNING



Richard Oster, chief executive, with some of Cookson's silver ingots

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Selection of directors at Bank angers Labour

LABOUR plans a Commons protest on Monday over the Government's decision to omit any trade union representative from the Bank of England's Court of Directors for the first time since 1947. Gavin Laird, general secretary of the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, will not be replaced with a fellow union official after standing down.

Alistair Darling, Labour's City spokesman, said: "I hope the Government is not attempting, with the Bank of England, to exclude people who are not afraid to stand up to the Government. If it is going to exclude large sections of the population from its governing body, that is hardly likely to give confidence about its objectivity." The Treasury said directors were appointed "on their own merits, rather than for the organisations they represent". But Mr Darling said: "The Labour party strongly believes that the Court of the Bank of England needs to be reconstituted to reflect all parts of industry and all parts of the country, not just the City."

Coutts Consulting in red

A HEFTY £6.45 million exceptional loss on the termination *of the Harbour Exchange lease in London's Docklands saw* Coutts Consulting Group, the outplacement company formerly known as D C Gardner, plunge into the red at the full year stage. The company, chaired by Sir Kit McMahon, suffered a pre-tax loss of £4.89 million (£1.22 million profit) in the year to December 31. Turnover fell to £18.5 million (£19.7 million). Profit on continuing operations before exceptionals amounted to £2.34 million (£2.63 million). The loss per share amounted to 20.56p, compared with earnings of 1.85p a share last time. There is again no dividend.

Lufthansa stake to be cut

THE German government expects to cut its majority shareholding in Lufthansa, its national carrier, to a minority stake later this year, according to a senior finance ministry official. He said Bonn would lower its stake below 50 per cent, though the extent of the cut would depend on the state of the stock market. The federal government holds a direct *stake of 51.42 per cent in the airline. Other public sector* institutions have shareholdings totalling 8 per cent. The official said it was not yet clear whether Bonn would sell off part of its holding, or opt not to participate in any programme to increase Lufthansa's capital.

Inspec set for market

INSPEC Group, the speciality chemicals company, is *looking to join the stock market through a placing and* intermediaries offer, valuing it at more than £100 million. Inspec, formed through a £40 million management buy-out from BP in July 1992, is likely to raise about £50 million, with about £37 million of new money. The proceeds will be used to cut debts and pay preference shareholders, with gearing likely to reduce to about 33 per cent. Inspec made operating profits before interest and exceptional items of £7 million in 1993, on £49 million turnover. Impact day is expected on March 17, with dealings due to begin on March 30.

Fisher acquisition

ALBERT Fisher, the food processing and distribution group, has bought Campbell Chilled Foods from Campbell's UK for £5.6 million. It is taking on up to £900,000 of debt. In the year to August 1, 1993, Campbell Chilled Foods made profits of £886,000. Stephen Walls, Fisher's chairman, said the acquisition was a move into the growth areas of prepared salads for retail and food service. It dovetailed with the *company's strategy of increasing value-added produce in* Europe, as it had already done in America. In January, the group bought assets of Fresh Western Marketing, a Californian supplier of fresh produce, for £17 million.

Litho off to good start

LITHO Supplies, a supplier of printing and graphic arts products that came to the market last November, declared maiden preliminary results showing a 38 per cent profits rise. In 1993, the group boosted pre-tax profits to £4.6 million (£3.3 million), and earnings per share by half to 12.9p (8.6p). William Shaw, chairman, said: "Given that recovery was patchy during 1993, this was a good performance and we expect further improvement as the economy strengthens." Operating margins improved to 9.5 per cent (8.6 per cent) on the back of increased own-label sales. The dividend for the post-flotation period is 0.7p.

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Hambro helped by homes upturn

BY CARL MORTISHED

HAMBRO Countrywide, the quoted estate agency and life assurance group, is back in profit after a 21 per cent rise in house sales in 1993. The 445-strong estate agency chain sold 47,275 homes and increased its commission income from £52.9 million to £64.4 million, helping to turn Hambro's 1992 loss of £1.6 million into a £15.8 million profit last year.

The rise in income from selling houses was not, however, enough to cover estate agency overheads; that division made a reduced loss of £1.9 million (£13.6 million). The group received a £10.6 million boost from Hambro Guardian, the company's life *assurance subsidiary. A £12* million gain was made on the sale of the remaining interest in Hambro Legal Protection. The total dividend is increased from 0.05p to 0.75p.

Tony May, joint managing director, said the estate agency loss took no account of the division's share of profit from selling mortgages and life assurance. In January and February, transactions in solicitors' hands were 34 per cent ahead of last year and Mr May believes estate agency will be in profit this year.

Tempus, page 27

Union asks investors for £11m extra cash

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

UNION, formerly Union Discount, is raising £11 million in a two-for-five rights issue at 150p a share. The price is at a 17.6 per cent discount to Thursday's closing price of 182p. The shares lost 6p to 176p. George Blunden, the chief executive, said the company would use the cash to rebuild the capital base of its discount house operations, so it could start selling fee-earning services to clients.

Between £6 million and £7 million of the money raised will be allocated to the discount house, to take its capital to £20 million. The rest will support expansion of other businesses. Union is trying to *build up its fund management* and derivatives businesses.

Mr Blunden said Union's discount house operation had been turning away blue chip customers "because we did not have enough capital to take the business on".

Union suffered losses in 1991 and 1992 as a result of its venture into leasing. Its net worth fell from £81 million in 1990 to £37.5 million last year. It earned profits of £4.5 million last year, against losses of £16.2 million in 1992, and paid its first dividend in two years.

Tempus, page 27

Scottish Power buys 50 stores

BY MARTIN FLANAGAN

SCOTTISH Power, the privatised electricity company, has expanded its retailing arm by buying 50 superstores from the collapsed Clydesdale electrical group.

Scottish Power is paying Clydesdale's receivers £16.9 million for the properties, 36 of which are in England, and up to £17 million for stocks. Industry sources believe Scottish Power now has a quarter of the electrical retailing market in Scotland.

Allan Griffiths, of Grant Thornton, the receivers, said Scottish Power's offer was one of three substantial bids, including a proposed management buyout. There has been speculation that Dixons also made an offer. Last year, Dixons claimed that regional electricity companies were subsidising retailing activities with electricity distribution profits. The Office of Fair Trading cleared the RECs, but revealed that the 12 distribution companies had lost a total of £105 million in the high street since privatisation. Scottish Power made electrical retailing profits of £4.5 million in its latest trading year.

Clydesdale went into receivership in January. Grant Thornton said yesterday's deal, which also involves Granada UK Rental acquiring Clydesdale rental accounts, some stores and a service centre for £8.3 million, will raise up to £42 million for Clydesdale's creditors, who are owed £80 million. It is is thought that the deal will save 600 jobs.

Tempus, page 27

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Tomorrow, The Sunday Times launches Personal Finance as a separate section – giving an even stronger showcase for the paper's unrivalled coverage of family finance in an increasingly complex area. Expert analysis and good advice is essential . . .

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ZENECA: **David Barnes and John Mayo**

Catalytic elements in a chemical reaction

partners in power

Sarah Bagnall profiles the two men at the helm of ICI's one-year-old multi-billion-pound global offshoot



JOHN MANNING

John Mayo, left, resembles the unruly, energetic nephew brandishing ideas and plans like new toys, while David Barnes has a considered, avuncular manner

Zeneca is nearly a year old. But David Barnes, its chief executive, and John Mayo, the finance director, are at the helm not of a fledgling company but of a multi-billion pound empire spanning the globe.

Zeneca was born out of ICI's historical decision to demerge its pharmaceutical, agrichemicals and specialties operations from its chemicals business. It involved a massive restructuring, taking 500 companies in 120 countries and unravelling and dividing up their assets, debts, people, creditors and pension fund. At the same time, Zeneca, the newly separated pharmaceutical operation, was floated on the Stock Exchange through a £1.3 billion rights issue — the largest successful, underwritten rights issue ever seen in Britain.

The move came in the wake of Lord Hanson's purchase in 1991 of a minority stake in ICI and his abortive flirtation with the idea of a takeover. However, ICI steadfastly denies that the unwelcome appearance of Lord Hanson on the share register prompted the break-up.

> "John is tireless in his questioning, accepting nothing just because it has always been done that way"

The routes of Barnes and Mayo to their present positions contrast starkly. Barnes, 56, set out to become a vet before throwing it in to join ICI's pharmaceutical division in the 1950s. Excluding National Service, during which he saw active service in the Malayan emergency, he has been at ICI and now Zeneca ever since, 35 years in all.

Mayo, 37, trained as a chartered accountant with Arthur Andersen before leaping on to the merger mania bandwagon of the 1980s by moving to the corporate finance division of SG Warburg, the blue-chip merchant bank. Eight years later, with several successful deals under his belt, he left to join the newly formed Zeneca operation.

But the marked divide in their backgrounds looks narrow when compared with the differences in their styles and manners. Barnes is a considered, controlled man whose demeanour reflects the years spent steeped in the ICI culture. He is avuncular, a characteristic reinforced by his penchant for pipe-smoking, while Mayo resembles his unruly and energetic young nephew, who darts about excitedly brandishing ideas like new toys.

Despite their differences there is little doubt that they admire each other's qualities. "John has brought a different set of skills to Zeneca. He has extensive financial skills, a deep analytical capability and an ability to absorb a huge mass of data and information," Barnes suggests.

These capabilities were put to the test during a six-month secondment to ICI. His sojourn started in true merchant banking style with David Scholey, Warburg's chairman, telling him one day that he was starting the next — Christmas Eve 1991. The demerger route had not been decided on then and Mayo's task was to help ICI's management decide whether it was the best way forward. Six months later his task was done; Zeneca's demerger was announced and he hot-footed it back to the City.

But as soon as the demerger route had been decided upon, the ICI board started to think about the two management teams. "Who is going to be in the Catholic church, who is going to be in the Protestant church and who is going to fall into neither church," Barnes says.

Mayo, who was busily trying to re-immerse himself in the world of investment banking, emerged as the favourite candidate as Zeneca's finance director. He was caught by surprise. His mind was very definitely elsewhere as he was in a lawyer's office working on a takeover deal when he got the telephone call offering him the job. "I suppose it shouldn't have been a bolt out of the blue but it was. I hadn't really thought about moving to industry," Mayo recalls.

He admits that if he hadn't spent time at ICI he may not have been enticed away from Warburgs. "Most outsiders saw ICI, as Zeneca was then, as a very monolithic establishment," he says.

But his stay had expelled such views and the qualities and manners of Barnes clinched his decision to move. "David is not at all stuffy or boring old establishment. He is very open in his dealings with people and above all he is absolutely fair. As a result, there is no worrying about protecting your back or being politically correct," Mayo says.

Barnes is a strong admirer of Churchill, extolling his ability to organise, spot key issues, target those issues and have the confidence in his own decisions and the ability to communicate and motivate people. All qualities people readily attach to Barnes.

Mayo believes Barnes has a clarity of thought reflecting his scientific leanings. "He tends to work through a problem sequentially in a way that you prove something." This isn't surprising given that Barnes has been with ICI "from the days when the pharmaceutical division was so small I don't think ICI knew it had one to the days when it became the most profitable and successful part of the company". Barnes says. As a result, he has a deep knowledge of the industry and the people within it and an understanding of which levers to pull and buttons to press to get the desired result.

A knowledge Mayo says he is striving for. Barnes says of him: "He is tireless in his questioning, accepting nothing just because it's always been done that way. At times he's exhausting but he's always stimulating."

Having to get to know the minutiae of business life is in marked contrast to Mayo's previous experience. As a merchant banker, he was used to forming grand designs and then handing them over to the relevant company to execute. It is a much longer game than the immediacy of the investment banking world. "You can't get the instantaneous changes in a physical and real world as you can in a financial world," Mayo says. "Money is fungible, deals are on paper, you can change them with a stroke of a pen. The bioscience businesses aren't like that."

Mayo is not a patient man and the inability to make things move as fast as he would like gives rise to frustration — the antithesis of the equanimity and tolerance that pervades Barnes's personality. "John is always asking questions such as why can't we speed up drug development times," says Barnes. "Fine, good question John, but it does actually take six months to do a six-month toxicity test. You can't do it in four months."

"He's a bit like a terrier that comes along and nips you in the heels. In my student days, I used to have digs and my landlady had a corgi that had this nasty habit; it wouldn't do it for two or three weeks and then it would suddenly do it when you least expected it. John is terrier-like in that he nips at your heels and gets things moving," Barnes adds.

Mayo's impatience is tempered by Barnes' tolerance; the chief executive slips easily into the role of peacemaker, defusing any conflict between members of staff that looks set to flare up. This reflects his disciplined mind, which strips the emotion out of a situation out of a desire to achieve rational decision making without the obvious obscuration emotion causes.

Whatever it was that brought these two very different men together, Zeneca's £540 million rise in pre-tax profits to £642 million should dispel any concerns about the wisdom of the demerger.

TEMPUS

Cookson's margins will be boosted by metals sales

AS COOKSON, the once-moribund industrial materials group, continues to recover, it is keen to emphasise its improving margins.

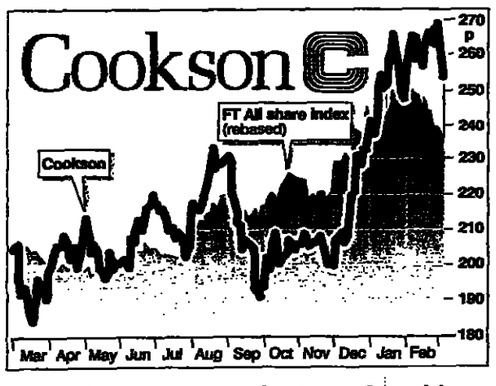
Analysts were therefore beaten over the head yesterday with the fact that, though the headline return on sales figure improved by a percentage point, to 7.7 per cent, the group reached the end of 1993 at a level that probably exceeded the 8.4 per cent reached in the second half.

More important are the further gains that may be made this year. There seems little reason, with a following wind, why the magic figure of 10 per cent cannot be achieved — if not for 1994 as a whole, at least as the group enters 1995.

The sale of the less profitable commodity lead and aluminium businesses, likely within weeks, would add about 0.4 per cent to margins. In addition, further improvements from America, and some price increases there in fibre optics and other areas of electronics, will bring substantial benefits.

On the debt front, 1993 was something of a standstill year. Borrowings fell by £164 million, but this largely reflected the £185 million rights issue announced in March, minus the £16 million difference between acquisitions and disposals. But the market has been reassured that the good news at the halfway stage has continued into the second half, helped by the sharp fourth-quarter upturn in the US.

The shares, on the expectation of increased dividends, now yield 3.25 per cent and sell on 18 times this year's earnings. Fair value for now; but expect further advances as market forecasts are increased ahead of the interims.



Hambro Countrywide

THAT Hambro Countrywide's estate agents are only barely in profit after a 21 per cent rise in house sales gives some indication of the scale of the industry's structural problems. Even after a residential property crash, deep recession and the consequential insolvencies, estate agents are still fighting for scraps of business.

The overcapacity problem is one which even the largest firms, like Hambro, will have difficulty in combating. The business has few barriers to entry and is one in which small operations can survive on local goodwill, a fact demonstrated by the big insurers who built up large chains only to sell them at heavy losses.

Estate agents who keep a lid on their costs enjoy high operational gearing and many hope to move sharply into profit in the recovery. Commission rates on house sales have risen sharply as the surviving firms sought to restore their profitability. Hambro's rates have risen to average 2.1 per cent last year from a low point of 1.6 per cent in 1988. But recovery brings with it competition; as housing market activity accelerates, commission rates will trend downwards, limiting the gains from gearing. Hambro hopes to lift profits by selling more mortgages and endowments but owning estate agents is an expensive way to sell insurance.

Union

UNION has come a long way from the respectable but boring business of men in top hats discounting bills. After losing half of its net assets in disastrous diversifications, the former discount house has swung back into profit, changed its name and launched a rights issue.

Union does need the money. Even were it to confine its operations to the core business of trading in short-term securities, it would need to expand its available free capital. The company admits it missed out on most of the bond markets rise last year because losses in its ancillary businesses deprived the core discount house of capital. Out of the rights issue, some £7 million is earmarked for the restoration of the free capital base of the discount house to £20 million.

But the risk and potential reward lies in Union's other ambitions. Union's treasury managers already handle £1 billion of short-term money for major blue chip clients and the business, while earning tiny commissions of 0.1 per cent, could be expanded. In addition, Union's Liffe operations are to be expanded from an execution-only service to a full sales team. That means hiring new broking staff at the height of a bull market, raising horrible feelings of déjà vu.

Scottish Power

IF IT looks like a duck, walks like a duck and quacks like a duck, it is probably a duck, no matter that it may be labelled a free-standing profit centre. Scottish Power, along with the rest of the electricity companies, says its retail operations are not supported by its core business but it is hard to imagine that any company without such a healthy source of earnings could contemplate paying the amount the Scots splashed out yesterday for 50 Clydesdale superstores.

On one simple analysis, Scottish Power has overpaid: it is paying more than Stanley Kalms at Dixons, for example, was prepared to spend, while it is unlikely to achieve the sort of savings and synergies Dixons could look to. Against this, sales per square foot at the Clydesdale outlets are running at about three quarters the rate at Scottish Power's own shops, which suggests there is room for improvement.

The Scots have moved to take advantage of an important, and probably unrepeatable, opening south of the border. Time will tell whether the cost is justified but the buyers, who enjoy negligible borrowings, will at least be able to claim that if it was a mistake, it was hardly a ruinous one.

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Glaxo prospers as rival is warned by German watchdog

THE threat by the German health regulation agency to suspend the licence of Losec, Astra's anti-ulcer treatment, sent shares of **Glaxo**, its biggest rival, climbing 25p to 707p.

The Germans have warned the Swedish group that its licence for Losec in injectable form will be suspended within three weeks unless certain questions are answered. The agency claims there have been 19 documented cases of Losec injections causing loss of sight and hearing.

Losec boasts sales of $1.5 billion worlwide, although injectable sales account only for about $75 million of the total. It is one of the world's top ten selling drugs and Germany is its biggest market. Zantac, Glaxo's own anti-ulcer treatment, is also widely used, and last year accounted for almost half of group sales. Loss of confidence in Losec could benefit Glaxo.

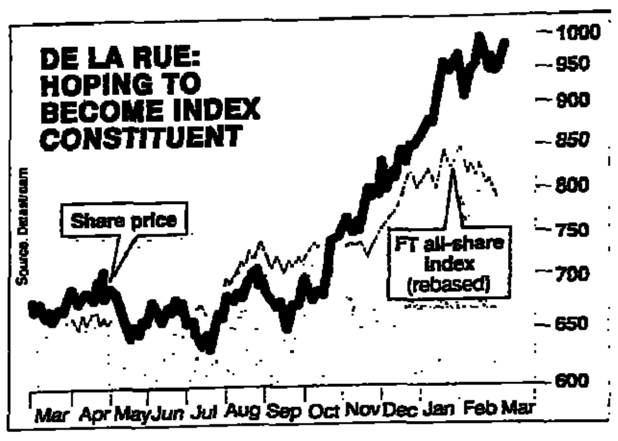
STOCK MARKET

The rest of the equity market put up a spirited performance. A few cheap buyers helped the FT-SE 100 index close near the top of the day, 31.5 up at 3,278.0. Despite this week's volatility, the fall on the week is just 3.2 points.

The June series of the future again opened at a discount, but this time lost the battle of wills with the cash market. It later climbed more than 30 points as the squeeze gathered pace. Trading conditions in the cash market remained thin, with fewer than 600 *million shares changing* hands.

Siebe rose 9p to 616p after a presentation for brokers and fund managers, arranged by Warburg Securities. **British Steel** added 4p to 141½p after a visit by analysts to its steel production plant in South Wales earlier this week.

A buy recommendation for **TSB Group** lifted the price 6½p to 249½p. **Courtaulds** also attracted similar support with a rise of 16p to 531p. **Pearson** recovered its poise with an advance of 25p to 693p after a period of weakness earlier in the week. Brokers say the shares have fallen far enough.



Ladbroke, which cut the dividend earlier this week, lost ½p to 198½p. James Capel, the broker, *is telling* clients to buy, impressed by the group's recovery prospects.

Reuters continued to benefit from this week's buy *recommendation from Smith* New Court with a rise of 44p to £20.78. Reuters recently announced plans for a share split.

Cookson jumped 13p to 266p, helped by a rise in full year pre-tax profits from £59.3 million to £95 million. Cookson's markets in the US remain strong and there are signs of improvement in Britain, the company said.

Union Discount is raising £11 million by way of a two-for-five rights issue at 150p. The group is also paying a dividend again after returning to the black with pre-tax profits of £4.5 million compared with a £16.3 million deficit. The extra money will be used to expand the group's non-discount house activities. *The shares finished the day* 6p lower at 176p.

Molynx was steady at 23½p after the offer from Bob Morton's Silvermines went unconditional. Silvermines has received acceptances to*talling 70.48 per cent.*

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: Gilts clawed back early falls generated by the latest payroll figures from the US. A technical squeeze in the German bund also dragged prices higher in London before the close. The June series of the Long Gilt future touched £109⅝ before rallying to finish £13/16 up at £111 17/32 as a total of 86,000 contracts were completed. The longer end of the market enjoyed the best gains, with Treasury 9 per cent 2012 up £31/32 at £117⅜, *while in short-dated issues,* Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 was £½ better at £111 13/16.

☐ **WALL STREET**: US shares extended their rally, buoyed by receding fears of an immediate hike in interest *rates. At midday, the Dow* Jones industrial average was up 18.86 points at 3,843.28, with advancing shares leading declining issues 12 to seven. Strong jobs data for February sparked a sell-off in bonds, with blue chips initially following suit, but analysts said closer examination of the data and a revision of January figures revealed some weakness. Treasuries continued to be edgy but were off their lows, with the Long Bond down 13/32 to yield 6.87 per cent.

MICHAEL CLARK

MARKETS AT A GLANCE

THE POUND

US $ .... 1.4900 (-0.0053)
German mark .... 2.5624 (+0.0081)
Exchange index .... 81.2 (+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 .... 3278.0 (+31.5)
Dow Jones .... 3843.28 (+18.86)*
Nikkei Avg .... 19966.00 (+360.14)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 5¼%
3-month Interbank 5 3/16-5 1/16%
US Federal Funds 3 5/16%*
3-month Treas Bills 3.55-3.54%*
Long Bond 6.87%*

CURRENCIES

New York:	London:
£:$ 1.4895*	£:$ 1.4918
$:DM ..1.7180*	£:DM 2.5652
$:SWfr 1.4399*	£:SWfr 2.1519
$:Ffr ...5.8373*	£:Ffr 8.7080
$:Yen ..105.59*	£:Yen 157.31
£:SDR ..1.0645	£:ECU 1.3193

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 375.65 .... PM 375.95
Close 376.60-377.10
New York:
Comex 377.55-378.05*

OIL

Brent Crude .... $13.50 per bbl (Apr)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI..141.3 Jan (2.5%) Jan 1987=100
* Denotes midday trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.24	2.04
Austria Sch	18.95	17.45
Belgium Fr	55.77	51.37
Canada $	2.129	1.959
Cyprus Cyp£	0.799	0.749
Denmark Kr	10.59	9.79
Finland Mkk	8.94	8.14
France Fr	9.14	8.44
Germany Dm	2.71	2.50
Greece Dr	393.00	368.00
Hong Kong $	12.20	11.20
Ireland Pt	1.09	1.01
Italy Lira	2610.00	2455.00
Japan Yen	171.50	154.50
Malta	0.622	0.567
Netherlds Gld	3.017	2.787
Norway Kr	11.68	10.86
Portugal Esc	272.00	253.50
S Africa Rd	5.75	4.85
Spain Pta	216.50	202.50
Sweden Kr	12.50	11.70
Switzerland Fr	2.28	2.10
Turkey Lira	31500.0	29000.0
USA $	1.592	1.482

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Cash call as Henlys gets back in black

By Philip Pangalos

HENLYS Group, the car dealer and bus and coach builder, accompanied a return to profit at the full-year stage with a one-for-one £25.8 million cash call at 280p a share to help fund expansion over a wider area.

The group accelerated to a pre-tax profit of £7.31 million in the year to December 31, reversing 1992's losses of £2.08 million. Turnover advanced 12.4 per cent to £372.2 million.

Robert Wood, chief executive, said Henlys will use the rights issue proceeds to extend its dealerships and ensure it has sufficient funds to capitalise on recovering markets. Henlys now has 27 main *sites, but would like to see the* total increase to at least 50 over the next four years.

Michael Doherty, chairman, said the group's financial performance had been transformed from losses of £8.9 million in 1991. He said: "We now have thriving, competitive businesses which can move forward with confidence, and the proceeds of the rights issue will give us the flexibility to expand our motor division."

Henlys' flagship car dealers division was the star performer, with operating profits ahead 26 per cent to £7.28 million, on turnover up 15.3 per cent to £306 million.

New retail car sales rose 12.8 per cent, compared with a national industry average increase of 11 per cent. Used car sales grew 19.4 per cent and fleet cars advanced 21.5 per cent, though commercial vehicles dropped 5.4 per cent. Margins improved to 2.4 per cent (2.2 per cent).

Henlys' coach and bus business, which includes Plaxtons, also improved strongly, with operating profits boosted to £1.89 million (£1.97 million loss).

The interest charge was reduced by £1.6 million to £2.4 million.

As indicated at the interim stage, the total dividend is raised to 4.5p (3p), with an increased 3p final (2p). The 1994 dividend is forecast to grow to 7.5p.

Mr Wood added that current trading was "excellent", with business in the first two months of the year "substantially ahead" of the same period last year.

The shares rose 7p to 352p.

Data firm's sites filling up

JAMES MORGAN



Stephen Crown, of British Data Management, with some of the tapes that it stores for clients

By Martin Barrow

BRITISH Data Management, the data management *and storage group, says that* its properties are nearing full utilisation and that negotiations are under way to secure a substantial further property to satisfy future requirements.

Stephen Crown, chairman and chief executive, said that prospects have improved but depend on the success of tenders awaiting evaluation, including one where the company has been given an indication of success.

BDM yesterday reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £1.75 million, from £1.6 million, for the half year to December 31. The dividend is increased to 1.65p, from 1.5p. Earnings per share slipped to 5.7p, from 6.3p, because of the abnormally low tax charge in the previous year.

Turnover rose to £8.18 million, from £7.04 million, reflecting the contribution from acquisitions.

Operating profits rose to £2.06 *million, from* £1.65 million.

Prior-year figures have been restated after a change in accountancy policy, in line with current best practice, on accounting for the cost of cataloguing data held on behalf of customers, with costs now written off as incurred.

BDM's Eurocrate subsidiary expects to continue to improve, with a larger than normal number of commercial office moves in the pipeline.

WALL STREET

	Mar 4 midday	Mar 3 close
AMP Inc	64¼	64⅛
AMR Corp	61	60⅝
Abbott Labs	26⅜	26⅜
Aetna Life	59⅛	59⅝
Ahmanson (HF)	17⅛	17⅛
Air Prod & Chem	46⅛	46⅛
Albertson's	28⅜	28⅜
Alcan Aluminum	23⅞	23⅛
Alco Standard	56⅛	55⅞
Allied Signal	76⅞	76
Alum Co of Am	76	74¾
Amax Gold Inc	6⅛	6⅛
Amerada Hess	47⅛	48
Amer Brands	32	31¾
Amer Cyanamid	45	45
Amer El Power	33⅜	33⅛
Amer Express	28⅜	28⅛
Amer Genl Corp	26⅛	26⅛
Amer Home Pr	59⅛	59
Amer Intl	85⅜	85⅛
Amer Stores	50⅜	50⅜
Amer T & T	51⅛	51⅛
Ameritech	41¾	41¾
Amoco	52⅛	53⅛
Anheuser-Busch	49⅛	49⅜
Apple Computer	37	35⅞
Archer Daniels	25⅞	25⅛
Arkla	7⅛	7⅛
Armco	5⅛	5⅜
Armstrng Wrld	53⅛	53⅜
Asarco	25⅞	25
Ashland Oil	42⅛	42
Atl Richfield	100⅞	99⅜
Auto Data Pro	54	53⅜
Avery Dennison	30⅜	30⅜
Avon Products	56⅛	56⅜
Baker Hughes	18⅞	18⅛
Baltim Gas & El	23⅛	23⅜
Banc One	33⅜	33⅞
BankAmerica	42⅛	42⅜
Bank of NY	52⅛	52⅞
Bankers Tr NY	77	76⅛
Barnett Banks	42	41¾
Bausch & Lomb	49⅞	50
Baxter Intl	22⅜	22⅜
Bectn Dickinsn	37¾	38
Bell Atlantic	53⅜	52⅞
BellSouth	55¾	55⅜
Black & Decker	20	19⅞
Block (H&R)	45⅞	47
Boeing	47	46⅛
Boise Cascade	25⅛	26⅛
Borden Inc	14⅛	15⅛
Bristol Myrs Sq	54¾	54½
Browning Ferris	29⅜	29⅜
Brunswick	22⅛	22⅛
Burlington Nthn	61¼	60⅛
CBS	297⅛	292
CNA Financial	69⅛	69⅜
CPC Intl	48½	48
CSX	88⅜	87
Campbell Soup	40⅜	40⅜
Can Pacific	16⅜	16⅛
Cptl Cities ABC	680	670⅛
Cptl Holdings	33⅜	33⅜
Carolina Pwr	27⅜	27⅛
Caterpillar	111¼	112⅜
Central & SW	27⅛	26⅜
Champion Intl	30	30⅜
Chase Manhat	31¼	31
Chemical Bk	36⅜	36
Chevron Corp	89⅜	88⅛
Chrysler	59	58
Chubb Corp	73⅜	73⅜
Cigna Corp	64⅛	65
Citicorp	39⅜	38⅜
Clorox	52⅜	52⅜
Coastal Corp	32	32
Coca Cola	41¼	41½
Colgate-Palmolive	64⅜	64⅛
Columbia Gas	27⅜	27⅜
Commonw Ed	27⅜	27⅜
Compaq Comp	98⅛	98
Comp Ass Int	36⅜	36
Conagra	27⅜	27⅛
Cons Edison	30⅜	30⅜
Cons Nat Gas	43	43
Cons Rail	61¼	60⅛
Cooper Inds	38⅜	37⅜
Corning Inc	30⅛	30⅜
Crown Cork	37⅜	37⅛
Dana Corp	56⅛	55⅛
Dayton Hudson	73⅜	73
Deere	86⅛	87⅜
Delta Air Lines	48⅜	48⅜
Deluxe Corp	33⅛	33⅜
Detroit Edison	28⅜	27⅛
Digital Equip	31¼	31½
Dillard Dept St	34⅜	34⅜
Disney (Walt)	45⅜	45⅜
Dominion Res	41¼	40⅛
Donelley (RR)	30⅛	30⅜
Dover Corp	60½	60⅜
Dow Chemical	64	62⅛
Dow Jones	40⅜	40⅛
Dresser	23⅜	23⅛
Duke Power	39⅛	38⅜
Dun & Brdstreet	61¼	60⅜
Du Pont	52⅜	51¾
Eastman Kodak	44⅛	44⅜

	Mar 4 midday	Mar 3 close
Eaton Corp	59⅛	58
Emerson Elec	63⅛	62⅛
Engelhard Corp	27⅛	27⅛
Enron Corp	33¾	32⅜
Entergy	33⅜	33⅜
Ethyl Corp	18	18⅜
Exxon	65⅛	66⅛
FMC Corp	48⅛	48⅜
FPL Group	34⅜	34⅜
Federal Express	72⅛	72⅜
Fed Nat Mtge	80⅜	80⅜
First Chicago	46⅜	46⅛
First Interstate	67⅛	66⅜
First Union Rlty	7⅛	7⅛
Fleet Finl Grp	33⅛	32⅛
Fluor Corp	48	47⅛
Ford Motor	64⅜	63⅜
GTE Corp	32⅛	32⅛
Gannett	54⅛	54⅜
Gap Inc Del	47⅛	46⅛
Gen Dynamics	92⅛	91¾
Gen Electric	106⅛	105⅜
Gen Mills	55⅜	55⅜
Gen Motors	61⅛	60⅛
Gen Reinsurance	104⅜	104
Gen Signal	34⅜	34⅜
Genuine Parts	37⅜	37
Georgia Pac	71⅛	71¾
Gillette	63⅜	61¾
Glaxo ADR	21¾	21⅛
Goodrich (BF)	40⅜	40⅛
Goodyear Tire	45	44⅛
Grace (WRR)	43	43⅜
Grt Atl Pac Tea	26⅛	26⅛
Great Wstn Fin	17⅛	17
Halliburton	30⅛	30⅜
Harcourt General	34⅜	33⅛
Heinz (HJ)	32⅜	32⅜
Hercules	113	112⅛
Hershey Foods	50⅜	50⅛
Hewlett Packard	90⅜	89⅛
Hilton Hotels	71¾	70
Home Depot	41¾	40⅛
Homestake Mng	20⅜	20⅜
Honeywell	33⅛	33⅜
Household Intl	34	33⅜
Houston Inds	40⅜	40
Humana	19⅛	19½
ITT Corp	88⅜	87½
Illinois Tool	44	43⅛
INCO	25⅛	24⅜
Ingersoll Rand	38⅛	37⅛
Inland Steel	34⅜	33⅛
Intel Corp	68½	68¾
IBM	52⅜	52⅜
Intl Flav & Fr	37⅜	37
Intl Paper	72	72⅛
James River Va	19⅜	19⅛
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	39⅜	39⅛
Kellogg	49⅜	49⅜
Kerr-McGee	45⅛	45⅜
Kimberly-Clark	54⅜	54⅜
Kmart	18⅜	18⅜
Knight-Ridder	58⅜	59⅜
Lilly (Eli)	54⅛	55⅜
Limited Inc	20	19⅜
LIN Brdcstng	112⅜	111¾
Lincoln Nat	40⅜	41¾
Litton	67⅜	67⅛
Liz Claiborne	22⅜	23
Lockheed Corp	66	65⅜
Louisiana Pac	42⅛	43
MCI Commun	25⅜	25⅛
Marriott Int	28⅜	28⅛
Marsh & McLnn	83¾	82⅛
Masco Corp	35⅜	35
May Dept St	43¾	43⅜
Maytag Corp	17⅛	17⅜
McCaw Cellular	49⅜	49⅛
McDonalds	61¼	61¾
McDonnell D	118⅛	117¾
McGraw Hill	70⅜	70⅛
Mead Corp	43½	43⅛
Medtronic	78⅛	79
Mellon Bk	54⅜	54½
Melville Corp	38⅛	38⅜
Merck Inc	31	31¾
Merrill Lynch	41	40⅜
Minnesota Mine	104	103⅛
Mobil Corp	79⅛	80⅜
Monsanto	75⅜	75⅜
Morgan (JP)	67	66½
Motorola Inc	105¾	105
Natl Medical	16⅜	15¾
Natl Semi	23⅛	23⅛
Natl Service Ind	27⅜	27⅛
Navistar Int	23⅛	23¾
NBD Bancorp	28⅜	28⅜
NY Times A	27½	27⅜
Newmont Mng	53	53
Niag Mohawk	19⅜	19⅛
Nike B	51	50⅛
NL Industries	8⅜	8⅜
Nordstrom	40	40⅜
Norfolk Sthrn	68	67⅜
Nthn State Pwr	41¾	41¾
Norwest Corp	23⅜	23⅜
Nynex Corp	37⅜	37⅜
Occidental Pet	17⅜	17⅛
Ohio Edison	20⅜	20⅜

	Mar 4 midday	Mar 3 close
Oracle Systems	34⅛	34⅜
Oryx Energy Co	17⅛	18⅛
Owens Corning	39⅜	39
PNC Financial	30⅜	30⅛
PPG Industries	75⅜	75⅜
Paccar Inc	57⅜	57⅛
Pacificorp	18⅜	18⅜
Pac Enterprises	21⅛	22⅜
Pac Gas & Elect	31⅛	31⅛
Pac Telesis	54⅜	53
Pall Corp	17⅛	17⅛
Panhandle East	23⅜	22⅛
Parker Hannifin	39⅜	38
Penney (JC)	55⅜	55⅛
Pennzoil	53⅜	54
Pepsico	38	38⅜
Pfizer	59⅜	59⅜
Phelps Dodge	55⅜	55⅜
Philadel Elec	29⅜	29⅜
Philip Morris	54⅛	54⅛
Phillips Pet	27⅛	27⅜
Pitney Bowes	43⅜	43⅜
Polaroid	31¾	31⅛
PriceCostco	20⅜	21⅛
Procter & Gmbl	57⅜	56⅛
Pub Serv E & G	30⅜	29⅜
Quaker Oats	63⅛	62⅛
Ralston Purina	42⅜	42⅜
Raychem Corp	37⅜	37⅛
Raytheon	62⅜	62⅛
Reebok Intl	32⅛	31¾
Reynolds Metals	52⅜	51⅜
Roadway Srvcs	71¾	71¾
Rockwell Intl	41¾	41¾
Rohm & Haas	55⅜	54⅜
Royal Dutch	104⅜	105
Rubbermaid	29⅜	29⅜
Safeco Corp	57	56⅛
St Paul's Cos	81¾	81⅛
Salomon Inc	49⅛	49⅜
Santa Fe Pac	23⅜	23⅜
Sara Lee Corp	21¾	21¾
Stecorp	18⅜	18⅜
Schering Plough	58⅜	58⅜
Schlumberger	57¾	56⅛
Scott Paper	46	45⅛
Seagram	28	28⅜
Sears Roebuck	48⅜	47⅜
Shell Trans	62⅛	62⅛
Sherwin Wllms	33⅜	33⅛
Skyline Corp	20⅛	20½
Snap-On-Tools	43⅛	43⅜
Southern Co	21	20⅜
Sthwestern Bell	38⅛	39⅜
Sprint Corp	36⅜	36⅜
Stanley Works	41¾	41¾
Sun Company	34⅜	34⅜
Sun Microsys	29⅜	27⅜
Suntrust	44⅜	44⅜
Supervalu	34⅜	35¾
Syntex Corp	14⅛	14¾
Sysco Corp	27⅜	27
TRW Inc	73	71¾
Tandem Comp	14¾	14⅛
Tandy Corp	42	41⅛
Telecom Corp	3⅜	3½
Teledyne	20⅜	20⅜
Temple Inland	51⅛	51¾
Tenneco	56¾	56⅜
Texaco	66	66⅜
Texas Inst	84¾	83⅜
Texas Utilities	38⅜	37⅜
Textron	57½	57⅜
Time Warner	37⅜	36⅛
Times-Mirror	34½	34⅜
Timken	38	34⅜
Torchmark	42⅜	42⅛
Toys R Us	35⅜	36⅜
Transamerica	51¾	51
Travelers	35⅛	35¼
Tribune	57⅛	58⅝
Tyco Labs	54⅜	53
UAL Corp	129⅛	129
UST Inc	26⅜	26⅜
USX Marathon	16⅜	16⅜
Unilever NV	109⅜	109½
Union Camp	48⅜	48
Union Carbide	24⅜	24
Union Pacific	59⅜	59⅛
Unisys Corp	13⅜	13⅛
USAIR Group	10⅜	11
USF&G Corp	14½	14⅜
US Life	38⅜	38⅜
US West	40⅛	40½
United Tech	67¾	66⅜
Unocal Corp	27⅜	27⅜
Upjohn	28⅜	28⅜
VF Corp	50⅛	50⅜
WMX Tech	24⅛	24¾
Wal-Mart Stores	27⅛	27⅛
Warner-Lambert	63⅛	63
Wells Fargo	138	137⅜
Westinghouse El	14⅜	14⅜
Weyerhaeuser	47⅛	48
Whirlpool	68⅜	68⅜
Whitman	16	16
Winn Dixie	53⅛	54½
Woolworth	21¾	21⅛
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	48⅜	48⅜
Xerox	97⅛	96

RECENT ISSUES

Alpha Airports (140)	170	+2
Care UK Wrts	6½	...
Chiroscience (150)	*149*	*+1*
Clinical Computg (124)	155	...
Computrsd Fin Sols (90)	138	...
Edinburgh New Tiger (50)	47½	+½
Energy Capital (50)	58	...
Energy Capital Wrts	28	...
Finelist (130)	148	...
Fleming Japan C	100	+2
Goldsbrgh Hlth (170)	170	...
Guangdong Dvlpt	67½	...
Guangdong Dvlpt Wrts	25¾	+1
Herald Inv Tst (100)	*100*	*+½*
Herald Inv Wrts	48	...
K'wort Euro Pt (50)	41½	+½
K'wort Euro Pt Wrt	38	...
Mithras Inv Tst (50)	51½	+½
Mithras Inv Wrts	26	...
Parkside Intl (110)	118	...
Radstone Tech (125)	129	+1
Taiwan Inv (100)	91	+2
Taiwan Inv Wrts	42	+2
Trifast (200)	211	...
Tring Intl (118)	*132*	*-1*
United Carriers (153)	160	+1

RIGHTS ISSUES

Beauford n/p (20)	4	+½
Burford n/p (92)	11	-1
Conrad Riblat n/p (42)	9½	...
Creston Land n/p (15)	3	...
Firth (GM) n/p (12)	12	...
Grosvenor Inns n/p (120)	43	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

HSBC .... 860p (+24p)
Grand Met .... 490p (+12p)
Whitbread .... 562p (+14p)
RMC Group .... 963p (+25p)
Watts Blake .... 491p (+18p)
Courtaulds .... 531p (+16p)
TI .... 430p (+13p)
Pearson .... 693p (+25p)
Eurotherm .... 792p (+13p)
Telspec .... 258p (+11p)
Vodafone .... 601p (+14p)
J Sainsbury .... 379p (+12p)
Cookson .... 266p (+13p)
De La Rue .... 966p (+20p)
Glaxo .... 707p (+25p)

FALLS:

Derwent Holdings .... 705p (-13p)
Allied Text .... 580p (-10p)
Micro Focus .... 960p (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 41

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	12,000	Cadbury	2,600	MEPC	71	Scot Power	1,500
Abbey Natl	2,300	Caradon	1,500	Marks Spr	4,500	Sears	2,100
Alld-Lyons	1,300	Carlton Cm	2,000	NFC	1,000	Svrn Trent	1,100
Anglian W	898	Coats Vyla	1,400	NatWst Bk	5,100	Shell Trans	2,400
Argyll Gp	9,700	Cm Union	803	Nat Power	1,700	Siebe	2,200
Arjo Wiggn	974	Courtaulds	1,400	Nth Wst W	251	SmKl Bch	2,200
AB Foods	413	Enterpr Oil	368	Nthn Fds	1,300	Smith Nph	4,600
BAA	852	Forte	3,500	P & O	1,500	Sthrn Elec	574
BAT Inds	2,000	GRE	2,500	Pearson	2,800	Std Chartd	1,400
BOC	706	GUS	583	PowerGen	1,400	Sun Allnce	1,400
BP	6,100	Gen Acc	2,600	Prudential	3,800	TI Gp	638
BTR	2,300	Gen Elec	6,400	RMC	543	TSB	2,700
BT	5,900	Glaxo	13,000	RTZ	1,600	Tesco	3,500
Bk of Scot	843	Granada	1,900	Rank Org	720	Thames W	1,000
Barclays	5,000	Grand Met	7,700	Reckitt Col	473	Thrn EMI	944
Bass	2,200	Guinness	4,400	Redland	1,600	Tomkins	3,600
Blue Circle	997	HSBC	3,700	Reed Intl	405	Unilever	653
Boots	877	Hanson	10,000	Rentokil	1,700	Utd Bisc	1,700
Bowater	594	ICI	1,400	Reuters	1,100	Vodafone	2,000
Brit Aero	849	Inchcape	1,000	Rolls Royce	5,200	Warburg (SG)	651
Brit Airwys	5,400	Kingfisher	1,800	Ryl Ins	836	Wellcome	349
Brit Gas	4,600	Ladbroke	5,700	Ryl Bk Scot	772	Whitbread	3,700
Brit Steel	9,500	Land Secs	773	Sainsbury	5,300	Wlms Hld	924
Burmah Cast	506	Legal & Gn	806	Schroders	155	Wolseley	52
Cable Wire	1,900	Lloyds Bk	1,500	Scot & New	1,400	Zeneca	1,600

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3843.28 (+18.86)
S&P Composite .... 465.52 (+2.51)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge .... 19966.00 (+360.14)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 9918.19 (+116.16)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 414.25 (+1.84)

Sydney: AO .... 2116.8 (-34.6)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2060.09 (+22.19)

FT 30 share: .... 2563.2 (+23.5)

Brussels:
General .... 7606.36 (+45.40)

Paris: CAC-40 .... 2178.69 (+24.28)

Zurich: SKA Gen .... 696.20 (+17.30)

London:
FT A All-Share .... 1653.28 (+13.30)
FT Non Financials .... 1780.67 (+14.90)
FT Gold Mines .... 206.5 (-1.1)
FT Fixed Interest .... 121.41 (+0.22)
FT Govt Secs .... 100.69 (+0.29)
Bargains 25882
SEAQ Volume 581.0m
USM (Datastrm) .... 167.64 (+0.09)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 4	March 21	June 2	June 13

Call options were taken out on 4/3/94: Avesco, Carlisle, Cons Murchison, Rackwood Mineral, Starmin, Utd Energy, World Fluids.
Put: Alliance Resources.
Puts & Calls: Alliance Resources, Carlisle, World Fluids.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Mar 94	3240.0	3285.0	3225.0	3272.0	15458
Previous open interest: 78645	Jun 94	3242.5	3287.0	3241.0	3283.5	643
Three Month Sterling	Mar 94	94.84	94.92	94.84	94.86	16446
Previous open interest: 447145	Jun 94	94.85	94.96	94.85	94.90	24980
	Sep 94	94.72	94.81	94.72	94.78	7367
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 94	96.14	96.14	96.08	96.10	614
Previous open interest: 14873	Jun 94	95.70	95.70	95.64	95.64	626
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 94	94.15	94.18	94.15	94.15	16704
Previous open interest: 1032007	Jun 94	94.51	94.54	94.48	94.50	38389
Long Gilt	Mar 94	111-27	112-18	111-15	112-14	10053
Previous open interest: 197658	Jun 94	110-28	111-31	109-20	111-17	108196
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 94	111.25	111.50	111.25	111.30	366
	Jun 94	110.15	110.43	110.09	110.18	2906
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 94	96.00	97.70	95.81	97.22	100468
Previous open interest: 280028	Jun 94	95.55	96.80	95.24	96.42	192640
German Gov Bd Bobl	Mar 94	100.70	101.10	100.55	101.00	1277
Previous open interest: 8495	Jun 94	100.55	100.72	100.35	100.73	771
Three month ECU	Mar 94	93.66	93.67	93.63	93.65	588
Previous open interest: 39454	Jun 94	94.01	94.04	93.95	94.00	1008
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 94	95.93	95.96	95.92	95.96	2135
Previous open interest: 64302	Jun 94	96.10	96.16	96.10	96.14	4651
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 94	111.45	112.90	111.45	112.60	12511
Previous open interest: 136978	Jun 94	110.80	112.59	110.60	112.10	54688

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 81.2 (day's range 81.0-81.2).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 4	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.8668-2.8787	2.8752-2.8787	par-¼ds	par-¼ds
Brussels	52.59-52.85	52.74-52.85	3-8ds	10-20ds
Copenhagen	9.9690-10.0190	9.9970-10.0120	½-1⅞ds	1⅞-3⅜ds
Dublin	1.0425-1.0460	1.0430-1.0460	7-11ds	30-35ds
Frankfurt	2.5540-2.5668	2.5635-2.5668	⅛-¼ds	⅜-⅝ds
Lisbon	260.46-262.72	262.09-262.72	101-109ds	292-312ds
Madrid	208.84-210.39	210.09-210.39	57-65ds	165-185ds
Milan	2508.90-2521.90	2517.90-2521.90	6-8ds	20-22ds
Montreal	2.0185-2.0265	2.0235-2.0264	0.24-0.18pr	0.42-0.34pr
New York	1.4905-1.4933	1.4913-1.4923	0.20-0.18pr	0.49-0.46pr
Oslo	11.0610-11.1070	11.0840-11.0990	⅛pr-⅛ds	1⅛-⅜pr
Paris	8.6780-8.7150	8.7010-8.7150	⅞-1⅛ds	2⅜-2⅞ds
Stockholm	11.9040-11.9680	11.9360-11.9600	1⅜-2⅜ds	5-6⅜ds
Tokyo	156.60-157.44	157.18-157.44	⅜-¼pr	1⅛-1pr
Vienna	17.96-18.06	18.02-18.06	¼-1⅜ds	⅜-2⅛ds
Zurich	2.1406-2.1534	2.1504-2.1534	¼pr-par	⅜-⅛pr

Source: Extel — *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4903-1.4928
Australia dollar	2.0926-2.0970
Bahrain dinar	0.557-0.569
Brazil cruzeiro*	965.86-967.71
Cyprus pound	0.756-0.766
Finland markka	8.222-8.338
Greece drachma	368.35-375.25
Hong Kong dollar	11.5259-11.5352
India rupee	46.47-47.43
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4395-0.4495
Malaysia ringgit	4.0618-4.0677
Mexico peso	4.75-4.90
New Zealand dollar	2.5998-2.6062
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.537-5.663
Singapore dollar	2.3628-2.3660
S Africa rand (fin)	6.8599-6.9094
S Africa rand (com)	5.1822-5.1903
U A E dirham	5.423-5.547

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4035-1.4054
Austria	12.08-12.09
Belgium (Com)	35.31-35.35
Canada	1.3545-1.3555
Denmark	6.7003-6.7053
France	5.8282-5.8332
Germany	1.7152-1.7162
Hong Kong	7.7267-7.7277
Ireland	1.4271-1.4301
Italy	1683.6-1685.1
Japan	105.19-105.29
Malaysia	2.723-2.725
Netherlands	1.9255-1.9265
Norway	7.4209-7.4349
Portugal	175.4-175.7
Singapore	1.584-1.585
Spain	140.95-141.05
Sweden	7.9953-8.0052
Switzerland	1.4395-1.4405

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¼ Finance Hse 5½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7 Low 4¼ Week fixed: 5⅛
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 4 27/32 ; 3 mth 4¾. Sell: 2 mth 4 25/32 ; 3 mth: 4¾.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	4⅞-4¾	4 29/32-4¾	4 29/32-4¾	4 29/32-4¾	
Sterling Money Rates:	5⅛-5⅛	5 3/16-5⅛	5⅛-5 1/16	5⅛-5 1/16	5⅛-5 3/16
Interbank:	5⅛-5¼	5⅛-5 1/16	5⅛-5 1/16	5⅛-5 1/16	5⅛-5 1/16

Overnight: open 5, close 6¼.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	5⅛	n/a	5⅛	5⅛	5⅛
Sterling CDs:	5⅛-5 1/16	5⅛-5 1/16	5⅛-5	5⅛-5	5⅛-5⅛
Dollar CDs:	3.55-3.52	n/a	3.85-3.82	4.05-4.03	4.52-4.49
Building Society CDs:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5 1/16	5⅛-5 1/16	5⅛-5⅛

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £669m allotted: £200m: Bids: £98.800% received: 62%: Last week: £98.825% received: 95%: Avge rate: £4.7761 % last wk £4.7129 %: Next week: £200m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅜-3⅛	3⅞-3⅝	4⅛-3 15/16	3⅛-2⅞
Deutschemark:	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	5 15/16-5 13/16	5⅞-5⅝	6⅛-5⅞
French Franc:	6⅛-6⅞	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6	6⅛-5⅞
Swiss Franc:	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4	4⅛-3⅞
Yen:	2⅛-2⅞	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-1⅞

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $377.10-377.50 Close: $376.60-377.10 High: $377.40-377.90 Low: $374.75-375.25 Krugerrand: $375.00-378.00 (£251.50-253.50)
Sovereigns: Old $87.00-90.00 (£58.50-60.50) New $87.00-90.00 (£58.50-60.50)
Platinum: $391.50 (£262.60) Silver: $5.23 (£3.505) Palladium: $128.75 (£86.35)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Lyon	600	41½	52	60½	8½	25	31½
(*626½)	650	14	26½	36½	32½	53	59
Argyll	240	20½	28	33½	7½	17	21½
(*250½)	260	9½	17½	24	18	29	33
ASDA	60	5	8	10	4	6½	8½
(*60½)	70	2	4½	6	11½	13½	15
Boots	500	44½	54	61	9½	17	21½
(*534)	550	14½	25½	34½	27½	42½	46½
Br Airways	420	36	38	46	11	23	30
(*434½)	460	7½	19	28½	33½	47½	52½
BP	360	16½	27	33½	10½	19	24½
(*363½)	390	5½	14	20½	31	37½	41½
Br Steel	140	9	14½	18	7	12	14½
(*141½)	160	2	6½	10	20½	24½	27
C & W	450	28	44	—	12	25	—
(*463½)	475	14	30	—	22	35	—
CU	600	22½	42	46½	17½	28	36½
(*602½)	650	6	19½	24½	53½	59½	67½
ICI	700	50½	63	71½	10½	24½	35
(*745½)	750	17½	36	46	36	50	61
Kingfshr	600	29	42½	53	21½	39	48
(*603½)	650	10½	22	32½	55½	70½	78
Land Sec	700	[illegible]	40½	48	12	29	33
(*712½)	750	7½	16½	25	42	61	64
M & S	420	18½	27½	34½	9½	20	23
(*426)	460	4	12	17½	36½	46	47
Nat West	460	36	50½	58½	9½	18½	25½
(*483)	500	15	29	39	29½	38	46
Sainsbury	360	32	40½	47	9	21	24
(*379½)	390	15½	25	31½	23	36	39½
Shell	700	14	31	38½	25	35	45½
(*701)	750	3	14	19½	68½	71½	78
Smkl Bch	390	22	35	44	15½	27½	34½
(*393)	420	8	23	31	34	45½	52
Storehse	220	14	21½	26	5½	15	15
(*226)	240	5	12	17	10½	25	26
Trafalgar	106	11	16½	—	5½	10½	—
(*109½)	115	6½	12½	—	11	16	—
Unilever	1100	30	52	68	33½	44	57½
(*1105½)	1150	10½	30½	46	72½	77	88½
Zeneca	750	25½	46½	59	30½	43½	56½
(*760½)	800	9½	24	38½	67½	75	87

Series		May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Grand Met	460	44½	56	65	8½	15½	21½
(*492)	500	21	32½	43½	25½	33	39
Ladbroke	180	25	31½	35	5	9	14
(*199)	200	12½	19½	24½	12½	18	24½
Utd Bisc	330	28	36	41	8½	14½	21½
(*353½)	360	11½	22	26½	26	32	37

March 4, 1994 Tot: 38727 Calls: 22886 Puts: 15841 FT-SE Calls: 9808 Puts: 6270
*Underlying security price.

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	1000	35	54	74½	26½	46½	55
(*1001½)	1050	14½	31½	52	58½	75	83½
Thames W	500	40	49	53½	5½	18½	23
(*531½)	550	9½	20	27	28	47	51

Series		May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BAT Ind	460	38½	47	54	12½	22	30
(*488½)	500	17½	27	35	35	44½	52½
BTR	360	16½	25½	31	18½	24	31
(*363½)	390	6½	13½	19	40½	44½	50
Br Aero	500	41½	60½	76½	33½	49½	62
(*500)	550	24	40	56½	72	80	91
Br Telcm	420	29	38	43½	7	17½	22½
(*437)	460	9	17½	24	29	38½	44
Cadbury	493	18	—	—	20½	—	—
(*498)	542	5	—	—	59½	—	—
Guinness	500	35	51½	62½	18	29½	35½
(*523½)	550	14	28	39	49	58	63½
GEC	300	20½	27	30	7½	15	18½
(*307½)	330	6½	11½	16	23	33½	36½
Hanson	260	16½	20½	24½	6½	11	14½
(*267½)	280	7	11½	15½	17½	22	25½
LASMO	130	14½	21	25½	12	17	21
(*131)	140	10	16½	21	18	23	27½
Lucas	200	25½	32	36	5½	10½	15½
(*219½)	220	12½	20½	25	14½	19½	25½
Pilkingtn	180	25	29½	34	4	8½	10½
(*198½)	200	12	18	22½	12	17½	19½
Prudential	300	27½	33	37½	7½	12	17
(*322½)	330	9	17½	23½	24	29	33
Redland	550	37½	48½	58½	23	33½	46
(*573)	600	13½	26	36	55½	64	75
Royal Ins	280	22½	32	37	13½	18	23½
(*285)	300	13½	21	27½	25½	29	34
Tesco	220	18	24	30	9½	14	18
(*230½)	240	8	14½	21	22	25½	29½
Vodafone	600	34½	54½	72½	29	46½	57
(*600½)	650	15½	33½	51½	61½	76	85½
Williams	390	18½	26	32½	18½	25	31
(*393)	420	6½	14	21	40	44	49½

FT-SE INDEX (*3277)

	3150	3200	3250	3300	3350	3400
Calls						
Mar	140	98	60	34	17	8
Apr	161	134	95	68	48	33
May	190	155	127	99	78	57
Jun	205	173	144	117	96	76
Dec	—	262	—	204	—	159
Puts						
Mar	12	22	40	65	98	140
Apr	40	53	73	97	127	162
May	61	77	98	120	149	179
Jun	74	92	112	135	164	193
Dec	—	156	—	197	—	249

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Natl	460	32½	38	49½	5	15	23
(*489)	500	5½	17½	30½	27½	36	43½
Amstrad	35	4	6	8	1½	3½	4½
(*37½)	40	1½	4	6	4	6	7½
Barclays	500	22½	35½	47½	16	28	37
(*511½)	550	4	15	25	52	58½	67½
Blue Circ	330	22½	32	44	4	14½	23
(*346½)	360	5½	17½	30½	18½	32	39
Br Gas	300	22½	28	31½	2	9	12½
(*319½)	330	4	11	16	14½	25½	29
Dixons	200	17½	25½	30	3½	8½	15½
(*213½)	220	5	15	20	13	18	25½
Forte	260	14	21	29	4	14½	19½
(*269)	280	4	11½	19½	15	26½	31
Hillsdwn	160	19½	22	25	1½	6½	8½
(*177)	180	5½	9	14½	8	17½	19½
Lonrho	140	18	25½	30½	2	6	13½
(*155)	160	5	15½	20½	10	17½	23½
Sears	120	4½	7½	11	4	8	10½
(*120)	130	1½	4½	6½	11½	15½	17
Thrn Eml	1050	54	82	101½	8½	26½	49
(*1093½)	1100	18½	51½	69½	26½	48½	74½
Tomkins	240	20½	27	33	2	8	13
(*257)	260	6	14½	22	8½	16	22½
TSB	240	15	24½	33	4	10½	16
(*249½)	260	5½	15½	22½	14	20½	26½
Wellcome	650	22	50	71	17½	41½	55
(*656)	700	7½	29	50	51	72	85

Series		Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo	700	36	64	77½	27	46½	63
(*707)	750	16½	43½	55½	57½	74½	92
HSBC	850	49	83½	102	57	87½	99½
(*857½)	900	32½	63½	81½	89½	117	128½
Reuter	2050	85½	145	187	68	112	138
(*2077½)	2100	56½	119	161½	96	143½	162½

Series		May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
R-Royce	160	19½	24	27½	5	9½	13½
(*174)	180	8	13½	17½	15	19½	23½

Series		Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	120	13	19½	25	3	9	13½
(*129)	130	6½	14½	20½	7	14½	18½

Series		May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Eastrn Elc	600	60	72	77½	7	30	27
(*640½)	650	27½	42	48½	26	43½	50½

Series		Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	460	22½	36	44	5	18½	27
(*476)	500	3½	16	27	27½	42	48½
Scot Pwr	390	25	36	44	4	12½	22½
(*407½)	420	6½	20	28½	19½	27	38

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: Coffee closed the week on a firm tone, helped by the news that the Brazilian government had finally reached its target for the producers retention scheme. The markets have not got too excited because the same news has been provided several times before, only to find there has been another obstacle to overcome.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	894-888	May	983-979
May	912-911	Jul	993-979
Jul	924-923	Sep	1005-997
Sep	937-936	Dec	1020-1000
Dec	951-950		
Mar	969-968		Volume: 3631

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	1238-1236	Nov	1239-1238
May	1249-1248	Jan	1240-1235
Jul	1238-1237	Mar	1238-1233
Sep	1240-1238		Volume: 6235

NO.7 PREMIUM RAW SUGAR (6.00pm)

		Jan	11.45-12.20
Spot: 286.50		Mar	11.20-12.30
May	12.00-12.10	May	11.00-12.45
Jul	12.40-12.65	Jul	10.80-12.75
Sep	11.70-12.10		Volume: 75

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	301.0-98.7
Spot: 337.5		Mar	300.0-97.6
May	334.2-33.9	May	301.9-97.6
Aug	327.3-26.4	Aug	305.9-99.6
Oct	304.1-02.6		Volume: 1375

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 4

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	82.33	122.32	124.68
(+/-)	+6.40	+3.87	+2.02
Eng/Wales:	82.33	121.04	124.95
(+/-)	+6.40	+3.33	+1.80
(%)	+9.1	-16.0	-19.5
Scotland:	n/a	124.82	122.85
(+/-)	n/a	+3.94	+3.18
(%)	n/a	+41.2	-27.9

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Aug	unq	—	Mar	unq	—
Sep	unq	—		Volume: 0	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Mar	101.30
May	103.35
Jun	103.40
Sep	91.25
Nov	92.10
	Volume: 338

BARLEY (close £/t)

Mar	104.50
May	104.50
Sep	92.50
Nov	94.75
Jan	95.75
	Volume: 0

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Aug	unq
Oct	—
Dec	—
Feb	—
Apr	—
	Volume: 0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Mar	170.0	170.0
Apr	147.0	149.0
May	160.0	156.5
		Volume: 122

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/k)
Apr 66.25-66.75

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): Oil prices were slightly softer at the end of an indifferent week.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	13.40	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Mar)	13.55	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Apr)	13.50	-0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	14.65	n/c
W Texas Intermediate (May)	14.75	-0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	151 (n/c)	153 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	141 (n/c)	143 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Mar	144 (-2)	146 (-2)
Non EEC 1H Apr	143 (n/c)	145 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	81 (-1)	83 (n/c)
Naphtha	134 (n/c)	136 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd
GAS OIL

Mar	139.50-39.75	Jun	138.75-39.00
Apr	139.00-39.25	Jul	140.50-40.75
May	138.25-38.50	Aug	142.75-43.25
			Vol: 11946

BRENT (6.00pm)

Apr	13.51-13.52	Jul	13.87-13.92
May	13.61-13.62	Aug	unq
Jun	13.74-13.77		Vol: 18666

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Mar	139.00-40.50	Jun	unq
Apr	unq	Jul	unq
May	unq		Vol: 0

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 94	1144	1140	1144
Apr 94	1200	1195	1197
May 94	1200	1190	1195
Jul 94	1090	1090	1093

Vol: 151 lots. Open int'st: 2601 Index 1110 -2

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE — Rudolf Wolff

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1890.5-1891.0	1904.5-1905.5	1518400
Lead ($/tonne)	441.50-442.00	454.50-455.50	205400
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	913.00-914.00	931.50-932.00	561675
Tin ($/tonne)	5280.0-5290.0	5325.0-5335.0	31222
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1276.0-1276.5	1298.5-1299.0	1494825
Nickel ($/tonne)	5620.0-5625.0	5670.0-5675.0	57786



CHEAP WAY IN 33

A guide to telephone share dealing

WEEKEND MONEY

SALES TALK 30

The questions to ask a pension salesman



Divorce

Sara McConnell and **Liz Dolan** say splitting up the finances is becoming easier, but couples can still do a lot to minimise the pain



Nearly 200,000 couples will get divorced this year, if past trends are anything to go by. The cost, in financial as well as emotional terms, is enormous, as couples negotiating their way out of jointly owned assets know only too well. The bill for a divorce can run into tens of thousands of pounds. Legal aid is available only where children or property are involved and has to be paid out of any settlement excluding maintenance but including property.

Divorces can be particularly financially damaging to women, especially if they have been bringing up a family and have not had the chance to build up savings or start a pension in their own right. Women still do not have a right to a share in their husband's pension, potentially one of his greatest assets.

Tomorrow night, a television programme, *Broken Lives* (BBC2, 8.30pm, illustrated right), will provide a stark reminder of how much rougher justice was 200 years ago. The programme documents the cases of three 18th century couples, all of whom tried to divorce. Only one couple, the Duke and Duchess of Beaufort, actually succeeded in divorcing, and this only after the duke had to prove in court that he was not impotent.

NEITHER spouse has an automatic right to any of the assets involved in a divorce settlement, says Teresa Cullen, partner in a firm of solicitors specialising in divorce. The court has total discretion over who gets what. If, as in most divorces, only one property is involved, the welfare of any dependant children is the most important factor. If the marriage has been a long one, the court will try to ensure the wife and children do not have to move and the husband may have to give up his rights to the property, unless its sale would raise enough for both parties to buy a new property.

- ☐ Where the marriage was long, there are no dependant children and the home is the only asset, the property is likely to be divided equally, whoever has made the larger financial contribution. The shorter the marriage, the more important individual contributions become.
- ☐ Mortgage lenders are normally happy to accept a court ruling that ownership of the family home should be signed over to the wife, but mortgage payments continue to be made by the husband. It is normally much easier once the court has made a definite ruling, says Abbey National. Most problems, it says, occur before divorce where one partner moves out and stops making payments, leaving the other facing repossession.
- ☐ Joint endowment mortgages are tricky. Occasionally, one partner may be able to sign over their rights to the payout, but both names are likely to remain on the policy. More typically, the policy will either be surrendered, or auctioned, and fresh arrangements will be made for the ultimate repayment of the capital.

- ☐ **Up to 1714:** All marital matters dealt with by the Church. Wealthy people could take a private Bill of Divorce through parliament.
- ☐ **1714:** Records of divorces started to be kept.
- ☐ **1857:** The High Court won exclusive jurisdiction over divorce cases. Courts could get damages from a third party and award limited alimony. Fault, guilt and desertion became grounds.
- ☐ **1882:** Married Women's Property Act gave women the right to keep her income, previously considered her husband's. (Women did not have full property owning rights until 1958).
- ☐ **1958:** Courts could award permanent alimony and defeat attempts by husbands to hide assets. Salaries and other earnings taken into account when assessing maintenance.
- ☐ **1969/1970:** Divorce rules rewritten. Irretrievable breakdown became the only ground for divorce. The work of housewives in the home was valued in financial terms. Courts could transfer property into name of other spouse.
- ☐ **1984:** Court takes into account income and earnings of both wife and husband.

MANY married couples have at least one joint bank account. Banks say they do not have the power to stop one or other withdrawing all the money unless account holders have arranged that all cheques must be signed by both.

Barclays Bank says:

- ☐ Divorcing couples should close down any joint account and open separate accounts. This can be done the same day. It will take a week or two to get new cheque books and cards arranged but at least funds will be safe.
- ☐ Either signatory to a joint account can ask banks not to accept cheques or instructions unless both holders sign.
- ☐ If one holder withdraws money without the other's knowledge or builds up debts, the other holder should get independent legal advice. The money in the account is part of the total assets of the marriage and will have to be included in a divorce settlement.

Couples who have two credit cards on one card account could also find that the secondary cardholder has gone on a spending spree. The main cardholder has to pay the bill. Separate credit card accounts (or none at all) are safer.

PENSION rights rank alongside the marital home as a couple's most valuable assets. But at present, courts in England and Wales have no power to transfer pension rights from one person to another as part of a divorce settlement. They are either ignored or used as a bargaining chip for the other half of a divorcing couple to get a larger share of other assets.

This is a particular difficulty for wives who may have worked part time or not at all and not been able to join a company pension scheme or start a personal pension of their own.

There would have to be changes in the law for courts to transfer pension rights in England and Wales. It is possible such changes could be included in a Pensions Bill this spring and put into action next year. In Scotland, pensions are valued as an asset along with everything else but courts still have no power to get a pension fund to make a payment to a spouse.

Lawyers are also awaiting the result of a hearing in the Court of Appeal in the B v. B case. Last year, a judge upheld a district judge's decision to vary Mr B's pension fund to give his former wife a pension. Mr B appealed against the decision. The result is expected in the next few weeks.

A working group formed by the Pensions Management Institute (PMI) has called for the courts to be given the power to transfer part of a pension to a spouse. This would be done by calculating the transfer value of the pension at the time of the divorce as if the scheme member was planning to leave the company, then giving half this value in a lump sum to the spouse to put into a pension of his or her own. When the scheme member retires, he or she will have benefits reduced because some of the fund has already been taken out.

At the moment funds built up in personal pensions cannot be transferred either. If there was a change in the law, however, it would be relatively simple to value the fund built up and split it.

A woman who divorces before she retires and does not remarry can qualify for a basic state pension based on her own and her former husband's contributions record, if she does not qualify on her own record.

ANY financial settlement in a divorce where children are involved will now be affected by the new Child Support Act.

Lawyers are concerned that, because CSA awards tend to be several times higher than those made by the courts, parents may be deprived of sufficient flexibility to put each in the best possible position after divorce. For instance, in recent years, the courts have made increasing efforts to preserve the wife's long term need for a home whilst allowing the husband the freedom to start a new life. This may be achieved by lowering the husband's maintenance burden in exchange for signing over his rights to the family home, or other assets. Such deals may become less common in the future because, under the CSA, child maintenance must be calculated using a strict, formula and cannot be altered.

Weekend Money is edited by Rose Wild

Lautro begins to bite



LINDSAY COOK
Deputy Business Editor

The roll of dishonour grows longer by the week, as the insurance companies that fall lamentably below the standards expected of them by their regulator are fined and have their 15 minutes of ignominy.

This week, the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation fined Legal & General £180,000, and the household name insurer also had to pay £220,000 in costs. This was small beer by comparison to what Lautro is planning to do in the future. The regulator has decided that the L&G fine, the largest to date to demonstrate how serious the offences were, was not enough.

Fines will be steeper in the future, when Lautro catches up with the other household names that have been flagrantly breaching its selling rules — and there are more in the wings waiting their turn.

When the Financial Services Act came into operation almost six years ago, it was expected that it would run a few flaky operators out of business. The shock has been how many respectable names, established for a century or more, have turned out to have paid less than scrupulous attention to the needs and protection of their investors, let alone to the rulebook that governs the way they operate.

Legal & General joins Norwich Union, Scottish Widows, Commercial Union Life, General Accident Life, Guardian Royal Exchange (now known as Guardian), Laurentian Life, Crown Life, LAS, Canterbury, NMFM, Prosperity Life, Interlife, Liberty Life, London & Manchester, Colonial Mutual and Cannon. Collectively, they have been fined a total of £1.59 million since Lautro started to get tough publicly in 1992.

The companies do not like their misdeeds being publicised. Legal & General fell shamefully below the standards that any customer would expect of a first league company and were a little tardy in rectifying their standards. We must hope that the company and its executives have learned a lesson.

Some investors may be concerned that their bonus rates will be hit by a large fine. They might prefer smaller but personal fines imposed on the guilty men and women in the industry than to see their funds diluted.

Hard lines

"He has lost all his friends. People at university with him now avoid him and his relatives fear his calls." This is not the description of a drug addict who has stolen from friends or family once too often, nor of a fraudster who has worked his way through the nest eggs of all those close to him. He is a young graduate who could only get a job as an insurance salesman with a company that pays on commission only.

Like so many other talented people leaving university, he could not get a proper job paying a salary and applied for a vacancy with an American company which pays nothing unless he sells policies to his acquaintances and family. His employer has cynically bought his address book, brothers, sisters, cousins, aunts, uncles and parents.

Most salesmen take about six months to sell a policy to everyone from granny to the family doctor, and once they have worked through those nearest and dearest, they then begin to try to sell to those who do not feel obliged to help them in their new-found career. This salesman has reached that point and has been told that the next stage will be to cold call people to sell policies and if he does not hit his quota he will be out.

Desperate, inexperienced and not trained in selling, he has little chance of surviving. If he loses his job his relatives and friends may not feel inclined to continue paying premiums. But if they cancel their policies he will be in deeper trouble as the commission that he has been paid will be clawed back.

Companies are pursuing former salesmen through the courts for unearned commission and must regret the large amount of business that does not stick. It is little wonder that some in the industry are reassessing the role of the commission-only salesman.

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SIB will soon start remedial therapy for potential pension swappers, *says* **Sara McConnell**

What to ask about personal pensions

Anyone still keen to discuss transferring into a personal pension from a company scheme after all the bad publicity will at least be able to approach a salesman armed with a checklist of what to ask.

The Securities and Investments Board said this week that it would be publishing the checklist for investors at the end of this month. It is part of a programme of "remedial action" after SIB's investigation into alleged widespread mis-selling of personal pensions to people who were persuaded to transfer out of company schemes paying better benefits.

People considering a transfer into a personal pension should ask the salesman to explain what they will be giving up by coming out of their company pension, SIB says.

He should draw attention to the loss of employer's contributions to an employee's pension and the loss of death in service, life assurance and dependants' benefits. Personal pensions will normally not pay these benefits, and although some of them can be tacked on to a policy, they cost extra to provide.

The main advantage of a personal pension is that it is more flexible, allowing people to retire earlier. Those prepared to take greater investment risks could get a bigger pension. However, the level of the pension fund depends on the investment skills of the insurance company selling the policy.

Anyone being advised to opt out of a scheme run by their existing employer in favour of a personal pension is almost certainly being given bad advice, SIB warns. Transferring funds frozen in a previous employer's scheme may in some circumstances be good advice.

However, most salesmen do not bother to collect enough information to enable them to decide whether they are giving good advice or not.

A report published at the end of last year by KPMG, commissioned by SIB, found that more than three-quarters of salesmen did not get sufficient details of the occupational scheme from which they were advising people to transfer. The same proportion had not given enough details to show they had analysed their recommendation.



Monday's Panorama, *Who's Sorry Now*, examined the business of pension selling

☐ At the end of this month, insurance companies and salesmen will be told how to tighten up on pension transfer sales in future. In April, regulators will tell firms which categories of case they should make a priority. These are likely to include people about to retire, who will need their pension soon. In July, insurance companies will be told to contact investors who have been wrongly advised to transfer into personal pensions and find out if their company schemes will accept them back in.

Guidelines for investors will also be published by SIB in July. These will tell people: what to do if an insurance company contacts them; what to do if it does not contact them; where to get advice; and how to complain.

SIB: 071-638 1240

How to spot the tricks of the trade

THE APPOINTMENT

The alternative approach — "Would you like me to come round and see you on Tuesday afternoon or Thursday morning?" You don't want to see him at all, but if you're not careful you'll agree to one or other date.

The lucky slot — "I've just looked in my diary and I'm in your area on Tuesday and could fit you in at 2.30pm." If you say that is inconvenient you will be amazed how many other times he can "fit you in".

When "yes" is the only answer — "If I can show you a way of saving time and money, would this be of interest to you?"

The introduction — "Your bank manager has suggested I should come round and see you". The salesman has a list of all the bank's customers and must get ten appointments each week.

THE PITCH

Salesman: "Do you save?" — Yes. (If you say "no" you are doomed.)
"Where do you save?" — In the building society.
"What interest do you get?" — Five per cent. "What is the rate of inflation?" — Two per cent.
"How much interest are you really making?" — Three per cent.
"Is it worth going down to the building society on a cold wet day for 3 per cent?" — No.
"If I could show you an easy way to save that gives you 12 per cent, would that be of interest to you?" — Yes.
The salesman then starts drawing diagrams and you are "dead meat".

The fear pitch: "Will your children be able to eat if you are run over by a bus?" Salesmen have been known actually to produce a toy coffin and say: "What are you going to do when your husband is in one of these?"

The greed pitch: "One of my clients doubled his money last year in our Outer Mongolian Yeti Fund." The only way you are going to get huge returns is by taking huge risks, so beware — you might end up selling your medals.

The open probe: The salesman will encourage you to talk about your wildest dreams and will then convince you that they can be achieved.

The reflex commitment: The salesman will ask questions where the only answer is "yes" — "do you want to pay less tax?" or "do you want to be rich?" Eventually you have said 'yes' so often that you are conditioned to say it automatically.

OBJECTIONS

"I'd like time to think about it". The salesman will say: "What is there to think about?" He has put the ball back in your court and given himself time to think.
"I don't think I can afford this policy." He will say: "Many of my clients say the same thing." He then starts using an all-purpose script which ignores your objection.

THE CLOSE

The Nod: The salesman will hold his pen and an application form in his hand, maintaining close eye contact and nodding his head continually while saying: "You do want to go ahead, don't you?" You'd be amazed how difficult it is not to nod back, and before you know it you've signed on the dotted line.

The Colombo Close: Just as the salesman is about to leave the room, he will stop at the door and say: "I've just remembered, we're running a special promotion that is perfect for you — but I'll have to get your signature now."

The Blue Peter Close: "Because you are a really special client, I worked late last night to get the application ready for you. It's already filled in, so all you have to do is to sign it."

Skiing Downhill: The salesman will never suggest a small premium and encourage you to increase it. He will suggest a high premium, and when you object he will reduce it to something you can afford.

● *Material supplied by Pensionline, independent pension and investment advisers (081-643 9663).*

THE TIMES

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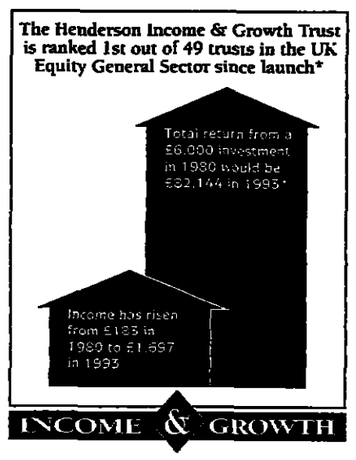
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Twelve questions everyone needs to ask their personal pension adviser



Here a salesman from Allied Dunbar advises an actor, posing as a prospective client, on the personal pension plan he suggests for the customer's needs

Q Is the salesperson independent or tied to just one company?

A Look at his card. If it says Lautro he is only authorised to sell one company's products. If it says Fimbra he has a duty to find the best company for your needs.

Q Should you entrust your financial affairs to this person?

A Ask how long he has been selling insurance. Does he have any formal qualifications, such as the financial planning certificate issued by chartered insurance institute?

Q How much will the salesman earn?

A Ask how much commission he earns — it will be between four and 12 months of your premiums.

Q Is this the cheapest way to buy this product?

A Ask him if you will save money by buying the policy elsewhere.

Q How much of your money will go into the insurance company's pocket?

A Ask him to explain exactly what you will be charged over the whole policy. Some companies take up to 42 per cent of premiums in charges.

The strength of the company . . . the size of the commission . . . and is there a cooling off period?

Q What happens if you lose your job and have to stop paying your premiums?

A If you are buying a policy where you pay your premiums each month for a fixed period of time and stop paying the premium, you may end up with next to nothing in your fund.

Q Can you pay a one-off lump sum instead of parting with regular premiums?

A Usually yes, but the salesman won't want you to because he will earn a lot less commission.

Q What is the shortest period you can have a policy for?

A The longer the policy, the more commission the salesman earns, so beware a salesman persuading you not to retire until you are 75.

Q Is the company he is suggesting really the best for you?

A Ask for at least three illustrations from different companies with the charges explained in layman's terms.

Q Do you really need this policy?

A What are the alternative ways to achieve your objective? For example should you consider building society, National Savings, Premium Bonds?

Q Will your money be safe?

A How long has the company been established, what are its assets, what funds does it have under management?

Q Do you have to sign today?

A No. Take your time to make your decision, and always see at least two advisers.

NEXT SATURDAY IN THE TIMES

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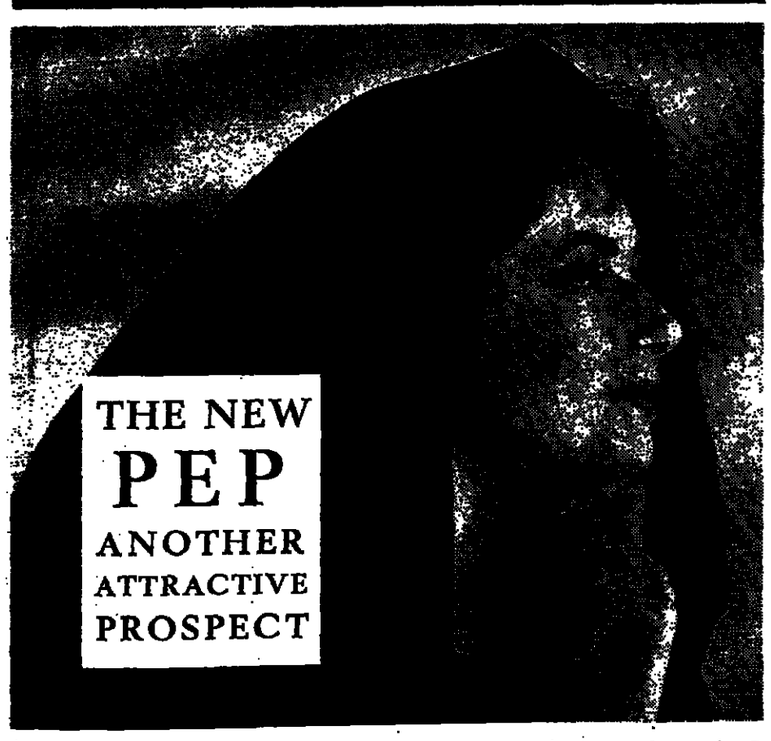
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● Matrix Securities' plans to launch a £95 million EZT investing in London's Docklands development last autumn failed when the Inland Revenue withdrew tax relief from the scheme. Matrix heard last week that it had lost its attempt in the House of Lords to overturn the Inland Revenue's decision.



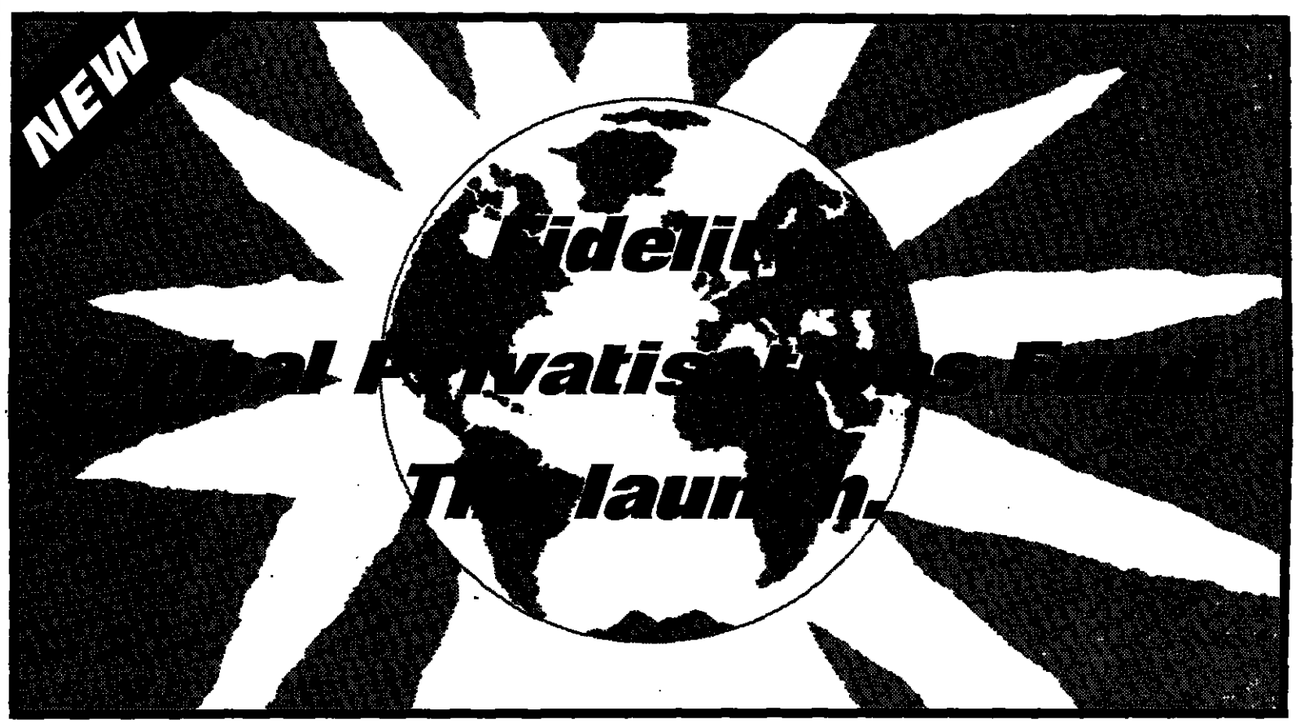
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HOW MOTOR POLICIES COMPARE

Variables	Guardian Direct	Direct Line	Norwich Union	Churchill
Age of driver = 49 (Fiesta 1.4LX) WA13 (Warrington) £100 excess fully comp	£231*	£277	£315	£311
Age of driver = 40(Ford Orion 1.4LX)CB8 (Cambridge) £50excess fully comp	£207	£175	£217	£216
Age of driver = 30(Vauxhall Astra 1.2Merit) KA (Strathclyde)£100 excess fully comp	£170	£184	£204	£171
Age of driver = 25 female(Yugo Tempo 1.3LS) Hx(Halifax) £100 excess fully comp	£158	N/Q	£325	£155

* Quotes based on, * years no claims discount; £100 excess social domestic and pleasure use; garaged, insured plus spouse for comp cover

Source: Guardian/Norwich Union

Cash in on being careful

CHEAPER motor and household insurance is on offer from a new direct insurance company — but not for people who live in inner-city areas, drive fast cars or have made claims in the past three years (Sara McConnell writes).

Guardian Direct has been set up by Guardian, formerly Guardian Royal Exchange. It will offer quotations and handle claims over the telephone, cutting out insurance brokers and other agents. Such agents earn commission that can add substantially to costs. The new company will compete with existing direct insurers, such as Direct Line, owned by the Royal Bank of Scotland, Churchill and The Insurance Service, owned by Royal Insurance.

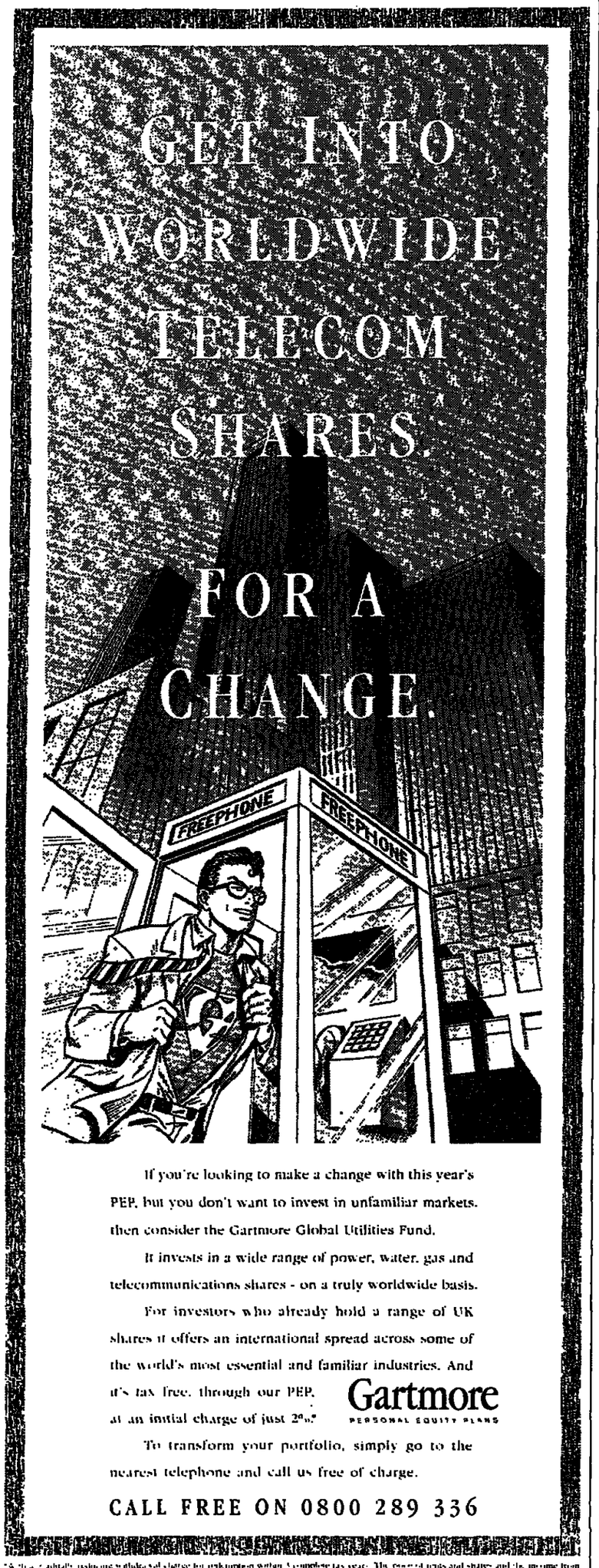
One reason all these insurers can keep their premiums low is by not accepting potentially high-risk policyholders in the first place. Ray Pierce, managing director of Guardian Direct, said the company was intending to accept about two-thirds of those who apply. However, he stresses that the company is targeting "careful drivers and householders". To be accepted for motor insurance, motorists must have a three-year no claims record.

CONTENTS AND BUILDINGS COVER

Contents	Guardian Direct	Direct Line	Norwich Union	Churchill
Malton, N Yorks YO17 4 Bed	£83*	£108	£100.20**	£123
Bridgewater, Somerset TA6 2 Beds	£75*	£72	£97.20	£105
Buildings				
Manchester, M24 £60,000 sum assured	£100	£121	£114	£135

* Guardian Direct includes free Family Legal Protection Cover for the first year. Discounts for security locks also available
** Premium given is for under 45s — older people pay less. Discounts for security locks also available

Source: Guardian/Norwich Union



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Battle over disputed savings

Liz Dolan reports on cases where banks and customers disagree as to whether accounts are still open

Seven years after Beryl Besley tried to establish her claim to more than £30,000 with Barclays Bank, her widower is still waiting for the case to come to court. Sybil Coady has has been trying to establish a similar claim from the Midland since July 1991 over an estimated £17,000.

Each is fighting bank claims that savings accounts opened decades ago have long since been closed and the money withdrawn. Neither bank can provide evidence of withdrawal, but there is no legal requirement for them to do so. The onus is on Mr Besley and Mrs Coady to prove that the balances recorded on old passbooks in their possession are still owed. The relevant records have been destroyed in line with normal practice.

Mrs Besley had always maintained that her parents had paid £4,500 into a Barclays deposit account in 1953. Her mother had last referred to the money being there a couple of days before she died in 1985. But when the Besleys attempted to withdraw the money, they were told it must have been taken out years earlier; there was no record of its existence.

The couple fought for five years to bring the case to court. In October 1992, just eight days before the first court hearing, Mrs Besley died. Barclays then offered Andrew Besley £5,000 in settlement, which he refused. John Carter, solicitor for Mr Besley, hopes to have completed the first stage of the case within the next six months. Barclays was unable to comment.

Mrs Coady, meantime, is trying to prove that a final balance of £4,102, dated August 13, 1973, in an old Midland passbook was never withdrawn. The bank says Mrs Coady would have received statements showing her current balance had the money been there after computerisation. As she did not, the cash must have been withdrawn earlier.



Full enquiry: Sybil Coady

The banking ombudsman has delivered a preliminary ruling in the Midland's favour. A small amount of interest on the disputed deposit account had been credited to Mrs Coady's current account in March, 1976. The ombudsman said the timing indicated that the payment was residual interest calculated after the closure of the deposit account. Mrs Coady refused to accept this decision and is awaiting the outcome of a full investigation. The Midland says the case is *sub judice* and cannot be commented on. It added: "We get a lot of cases like this."



Andrew Besley, with his wife Beryl, who died in 1992 while waiting to take her case to court

Post mortem into dormant deposits

Laurence Shurman, banking ombudsman, reports a steady flow of cases involving disputed dormant accounts. Last year, he was asked to consider about 120, of which 40 or so were fully investigated. However, the number of occasions when the banks subsequently paid up was "probably a relatively small minority", he admits.

Typically, relatives discover the passbook after the holder has died and try to withdraw any balance. Most misunderstandings arise because the books tend to carry warnings along the lines of "No withdrawal without the production of this passbook", he says. In practice, this is normally irrelevant, either because the book was at some point mislaid and replaced, or because it had been rendered obsolete when the account was computerised, probably in the early 1970s. "In hindsight, accounts should never have been computerised without first calling in the passbooks," Mr Shurman says. "But hindsight is a wonderful thing."

The ombudsman's first task is to examine the bank's list of dormant accounts. There is no legal requirement for banks to keep records of accounts that have been emptied and closed and these are likely to have been destroyed after a certain period. Records may also have been lost during mergers, Mr Shurman says. "It is not a satisfactory state of affairs. I find these cases quite difficult. On occasion, we have in fact ruled against the bank on the balance of probabilities."

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All you need to know about share dealing on the telephone. **Robert Miller** reports

Shares line gets busier

The growing popularity of telephone banking has led banks and building societies to move into telephone share dealing. And as a growing number has jumped on the bandwagon, the cost of trading over the phone has tumbled.

The latest entrant to the market, Yorkshire Building Society, launched YorkShare last month with a minimum commission of £9, undercutting the rival National & Provincial service by £1. The Yorkshire introductory offer lasts until July 31 when the minimum is raised to £14.

But as with so many personal financial services, cost is not necessarily the most important factor. For example, investors must decide whether they might at some stage need advice on whether to buy or sell a particular share or take up a rights issue.

Some groups provide advice over the telephone, provided a customer agreement form has been signed. Others will deal on an execution-only basis and insist that share dealings are conducted through an account at that particular bank or society.

In nearly all cases prospective investors are checked out for creditworthiness and if they are selling there may be a delay while ownership of the shares is verified.

Dealing costs can also be considerably reduced by using a postal dealing service such as the one run by Abbey National. Generally speaking, commissions for this type of share dealing start at £10. The disadvantage is the time lapse between posting and execution of instructions.

The execution-only telephone share dealing market is dominated by Birmingham-based Sharelink. Last July the firm, which was founded in 1987, went public with a Stock Market valuation of £41 million. As well as its own service it runs those of the Halifax and Abbey National.

David Jones, chief executive of Sharelink, which unusually allows investors to deal on their first call to the company, says: "The telephone execution-only share dealing market has grown by 400 per cent in the past five years. The average time spent on the telephone by our customers is six minutes on the very first time we do business with them. After that it takes about 30 seconds to issue buy or sell instructions."

Mr Jones says that in selecting a particular service, "cheapest is not always the best. The most important factors are ease of access, reliability and how quickly mistakes are rectified. To save £5 on commission is a false economy."

David Langshaw of the Association of Private Client Investment Managers and Stockbrokers advises: "Consider whether other services are available if you need them. Execution-only share dealing may be fine at the outset but later on, as a portfolio grows, you might want a different level of service. Also find out whether a particular group offers newsletters or other benefits which could be useful."

☐ *APCIMS offers a free 42-page guide to its members and what they offer. It is available from 112 Middlesex Street, London E1 7HY.*

ALAN WELLER



Vijay Shanman plays the market by telephone via Investorlink, where he finds the 1 per cent dealing charge attractive

Cheap way into shares

IN common with millions of other investors, *Times* reader Vijay Chauhan first dabbled in the stock market with the BT privatisation issue of 1982 (writes Robert Miller).

Shortly after, he says, "I began taking a much deeper interest. At first I used several of the larger stockbroking firms, but they were simply too expensive. When Walker, Crips, Weddle, Beck launched their Investorlink telephone dealing service six or seven years ago, I was attracted by the one per cent dealing commission. It is still the same today.

"Generally, I pay commissions of between the minimum £15 and £30, depending on the size of the transaction. On average I trade in amounts of £1,700 to £3,000."

Mr Chauhan manages his own portfolio of 8-10 holdings worth about £20,000.

By and large, Mr Chauhan says he is satisfied with Investorlink, which he uses on average two or three times a month. However, he adds: "Although the service has been very good in the past, I noticed it had tailed off somewhat in recent months. I wrote to the chairman who apologised straight away and rectified my problem."

Institution/ Service	£ Min P'chase	£ Min Comm	Dealing Costs	T'phone
Barclayshare	none	20	1.5% up to £10,000;£10,000 -£20,000 0.65%	0345 959800
Charles Stanley Gold Card	none	20	1% up to £5,000; 0.5% on next £5,000	071 739 5151
Fidelity Brokerage	none	25	£25 up to £2,500; £50 for £2,501 to £50,000	0800 222190
Halifax B/S	none	15	1.25% of the total value	021 236 6363
First Direct	none	20	1.5% up to £7,000; 0.5% on next £8,000	0800 222000
Lloyds Bank Sharedeal	none	18.50	1.5% on total value of transaction	0345 888200
Midland Bank Telestock	none	20	1.5% up to £5,000 0.5% on next £5,000	071 260 8170
National & Provincial B/S	none	10	£10 on first £1,000 plus £2 for every additional £1,000	0800 808080
Abbey National	none	24.50	Up to £2,500 1.65% next £2,500 1.25%	021 233 2333
Norwich & P'borough Brokerline	none	17	1% up to £5,000 0.1% on £5,000 plus	0603 930083
Redmayne Bentley Share Centre	none	17.50	1.65% up to £7,000; 0.5% up to £20,000	0800 181322
	none	12.50	1.25% up to £2,000 0.5% on next £3,000	0442 890800
Sharelink	100	20	1.5% on first £2,500 0.75% on next £2,500	021 200 2242
NatWest Brokerline	none	25	1.5% on first £5,000 1% on next £7,500	071 895 5349
Walker, Crips, Weedle, Beck, Investorlink	100	15	From £501 to £1,700 £17; up to £5,000 1%	0800 289680
Wise Speke	none	15	1% on first £5,000 0.1% thereafter	0532 444095
Yorkshire B/S Yorkshare	none	9	0.75% up to £4,800 0.1% thereafter	0274 736736

The alternative to choosing execution-only share dealing is to opt for a full stockbroking service, inevitably costing much more. Banks and their stockbroking arms, for example, will certainly welcome portfolios of £50,000 and some roll out the newsletters, tips and advisory services for £25,000. Some stockbrokers are specifically aiming for portfolios of £20,000 to £25,000. Fred Carr, chief executive of Carr Sheppards, the broker, says: "Before picking a particular stockbroker, people have to decide whether they are investors or speculators. Do they want to act for themselves or to find somebody who will act according to their instructions and along specified investment guidelines? That is fundamental, because if you get it wrong the Stock Exchange is an expensive place to find out."

Generally, Carr Sheppards' clients must have a portfolio of £100,000. Annual charges — on top of dealing commissions that start at 1.85 per cent — range between £120 and £200. Mr Carr says: "Ideally, to achieve a spread of risk, investors should have at least ten different shares in their portfolio, and preferably 15 or 20. In cash terms, that means £25,000. If income is the main objective, it should be more."

Barclays Stockbrokers does not set a minimum investment level. Justin Urquhart Stewart, a director, explained that about 5 per cent of clients pay an annual subscription of £36 for the firms's newsletters or £100 a year for the advisory service. Barclays looks after only the administrative work of some investors.

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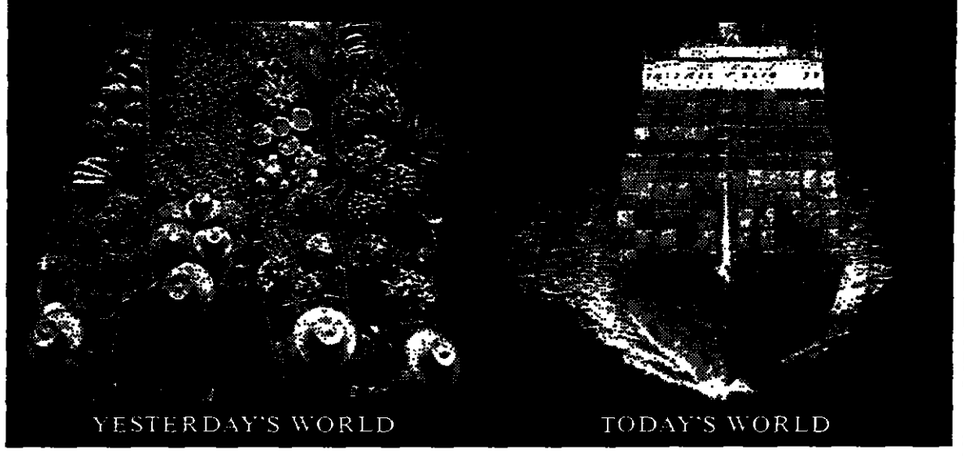
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Sara McConnell explains the dangers of mortgage panic

Beware the perils of going for a quick fix

Borrowers looking for fixed-rate mortgages are being told to choose quickly and commit themselves before the good deals disappear. The cost to lenders of borrowing money for fixed rates in the money markets continued to rise this week and many are withdrawing existing rates — either suspending them or replacing them with higher rates.

The Bradford & Bingley announced new higher rates on two and three-year fixed rates this week after withdrawing its old ones from the market last Friday. It now has two two-year fixed rates of 5.95 per cent (APR 6.2 per cent) for borrowers taking buildings and contents insurance with the society and 6.15 per cent (APR 6.4 per cent) for those not taking insurance. B & B's previous two-year rate was 5.75 per cent. for remortgages only.

Its two new three-year rates are 6.5 per cent (APR 6.8 per cent) for those taking out insurance and 6.65 per cent (APR 7 per cent) for those not. The old three-year rates were 6.3 per cent until January 1997 for those taking insurance and 6.3 per cent for those not.

Abbey National's new three-year rate is 7.14 per cent (APR 7.5 per cent), replacing 6.89 per cent (7.2 per cent). The new four-year fixed rate is 7.59 per cent (APR 8 per cent), replacing 7.19 per cent (7.5 per cent). The nine-year rate is 8.6 per cent (9.1 per cent), replacing 8.49 per cent (9 per cent) over 10 years. Existing homeowners at Barclays are offered rates between 6.75 per cent (APR 7 per cent) fixed for three years and 8.25 per cent (APR 8.7 per cent) for 10 years.

But no one should rush into a fixed rate so quickly, for fear of missing a deal, if the small print is left unread, particularly the redemption penalties. Redeeming a fixed-rate mortgage before the fixed term ends means incurring a penalty of several months' gross interest. Bradford & Bingley's new rates all carry a three months' penalty, typical on two- and three-year fixed rates.

On longer-term fixed rates, the penalty is normally between six months and 10 months. Abbey National will charge 300 days' gross interest to customers who come out of its new 10-year fixed rate early. Barclays will charge seven months' gross interest. Those redeeming mortgages near the beginning of the fixed-rate term are likely to have to pay more.

ALAN WELLER



What was a tempting mortgage deal for Jason Hext now has become a payments trap

Fixed-rate bet turns sour

Jason Hext was one of many borrowers who took advantage of a five-year fixed-rate loan rising in stages from 9.99 per cent. at the end of 1991, to 11.99 per cent. in 1996. The deal, from the centralised lender First Mortgage Securities (FMS), looked tempting at the time (Sara McConnell writes).

The variable rate at the end of 1991, when the offer was made, was 11.65 per cent. Mr Hext was also about to come off another special offer that had given him a discount of 3 per cent off the normal variable rate on his £49,000 loan.

If he had chosen to go back on to the variable rate, he would have been paying £403.26 a month. Accepting the new deal that FMS offered him would reduce his payment to £352.05 a month.

Not surprisingly, he chose the fixed rate. With hindsight, he can see that he had locked himself in just as rates were falling. Now, his rate has just risen to 11.99 per cent and he still has two and a half years of the fixed rate to go. FMS's current rate is 7.65 per cent. When Mr Hext asked FMS whether he could redeem his loan, it told him that he would have to pay a redemption penalty of more than £8,000.

Mr Hext had been sent a mailshot about the fixed-rate offer, as an existing FMS customer. He said: "I didn't know what I had signed."

Mark Chilton, marketing director of FMS, said that notes on the back of the fixed-rate offer and the personal illustration explained the penalty.

The explanation reads: "If you accept the fixed-rate escalator offer, a special redemption charge representing interest on the Total Debt (or the amount repaid if less), at the rate by which the revised fixed rate is greater than the then prevailing relevant redemption rate for each unexpired month of the revised fixed-rate period plus 15 days' interest will apply during the fixed-rate period, thereafter a redemption charge of one month's interest will apply".

The definition of the redemption rate is: "The money market rate for amounts in excess of £500,000 for sterling deposits of term equal to the unexpired period of the revised fixed rate period".

Translated, the explanation means that FMS had paid a certain rate to borrow the money to lend out in 1991 and is committed to this rate throughout the fixed-rate term. If Mr Hext redeemed his mortgage, FMS would receive a cash lump sum from him, which it would invest. However, it would get far less interest on its cash than it would have got in interest payments from Mr Hext. The redemption penalty is the difference between the cash interest and the rate that FMS would have got if Mr Hext had continued paying.

FMS's Mr Chilton said: "In retrospect, we should have worded it better. No one is trying to hide anything. Our problem is that what we put into the offer becomes part of the mortgage itself and has to be legally watertight."

Mr Hext does not have enough money to pay the redemption penalty, so he cannot remortgage at a lower rate. He wants to move but has negative equity which makes it more difficult to sell.

Following a request from *The Times*, FMS has now agreed to investigate whether he can transfer his existing loan to a new property.

BRIEFINGS

The Halifax Building Society is cutting the monthly interest rate on its Visa card from 1.63 per cent (an annual rate of 22.6 per cent) to 1.58 per cent (an annual rate of 21.9 per cent). This is the second time the rate has been cut this year.

Personal loan rates have fallen at the Nationwide by between one and two percentage points. On unsecured loans between £500 and £4,950 the rate for most customers will be 21.9 per cent annually. Preferential rates (for customers paying by direct debit from a salary-fed FlexAccount, or Nationwide borrowers), the annual rate is 18.9 per cent. On loans between £5,000 and £10,000 the new rates are 20.9 per cent and 17.9 per cent respectively. Secured homeowner rates have also fallen.

First-time and existing borrowers with the Alliance & Leicester will get up to £1,200 back in cash if they complete on a variable-rate mortgage before April 30. Customers will receive £760 cash back and a refund of up to £440 to cover the valuation. They will be paid after completion.

Fidelity has launched a global privatisations unit trust to take advantage of privatisations round the world and in companies which should benefit from such moves. A minimum of 50 per cent will be invested in EC shares including the UK, so the trust can be linked to a personal equity plan (Pep). It will be launched on March 21 at a fixed price of 25p for a three-week period. The trust will have an initial charge of 5.25 per cent and annual charge of 1.5 per cent. There will be a 2 per cent initial charge on the Pep and a sliding scale of withdrawal charges from 3 per cent in the first year to 1 per cent in the third.

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1985	£191,470	£7,741
1990	£396,266	£12,052
1993	£898,044	£14,633

* Basic net rate as 1972 - source: BZW. Thereafter, higher net rate - source: Micropal. Figures are to 31st December and are based on total return, net income reinvested. †Calculations by Foreign & Colonial Management Ltd, using end-market prices, net income reinvested, at 31st December, includes historical 1.5% notional expenses. Current charges are 0.2% commission excluding 0.5% Government stamp duty (maximum 50p)

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Should you buy your student offspring a place to live? **Nicola Cole** reports



Oxford students particularly benefit from parental help with housing. Estate agents report a rise in interest for the autumn term

Parents home in again

Buying a home for children at university seems common sense, but the economics are not so simple . . .

So one fortunate undergraduates going up to Oxford in the autumn will not be spending their summer holidays looking for somewhere to live. The Oxford branch of Cluttons' estate agents reports that parents of prospective students are looking around for houses to buy.

"This is the time of year when they start looking with the autumn term in mind — and we are seeing signs of them buying again," Sheila Hodgkinson, Cluttons' associate manager says. "Parents who disappeared for a while in the depths of recession are coming in again."

Such clients are, in the main, "very wealthy", she adds, and shifting cash "from one investment into another" to effect their purchases.

Most main mortgage lenders have at some stage considered targeting students. But while the institutions have wooed young investors as future clients they do not offer dedicated, branded home loan schemes: any such move "could be seen as fairly dodgy marketing of credit", the Council of Mortgage Lenders says. The minimum age for taking out a mortgage in England and Wales is 18, and in Scotland is 16.

Lenders are generally willing in principle, however, to consider approaches from under-21s who are students, trainee executives, or future professionals.

Two options are widespread. One involves home loans made direct to young applicants with parents or other close relatives acting as guarantors. The other enables parents to purchase in their own or their offspring's name by remortgaging their main home or by other loans secured on it.

Negative equity, which has dogged some parents who bought in the late 1980s, has been turned to advantage by others; having served their main purpose, properties are being used as second or holiday homes or rented. The latter course is helping to service mortgage costs until house prices rise sufficiently to make selling easier.

A Lincolnshire farming family that profits from letting inherited cottages to students — at about £35 each per week a term in advance, plus a £120 returnable deposit — thinks the economics of parents buying accommodation for students are debatable because of upkeep costs; they cite as examples repairing heavily-used equipment, and redecorating after repeated fry-ups.

The Halifax Building Society, which helps "hundreds rather than thousands" of students to buy property, prefers loans direct to young borrowers with a guarantor, because young first-time borrowers are eligible for loans up to 95 per cent of property value, and Miras relief.

Parent purchasers would receive a maximum of 85 per cent on a second mortgage, but no Miras relief, the society says. Mortgage payments can be subsidised through sub-letting, subject to consent.

Lloyds Bank regards purchase by parents via an advance against existing assets as "probably the tidiest way". Fixed rates are available for between two and ten years. With guarantor-related purchase, the bank requires all occupants of a property, tenants included, to sign a deed of postponement: this assures a lender's rights in treating a house or flat as security.

The **Woolwich** considers purchase by parents as "less fraught with difficulty". Student buyers must prove the deposit is their own money.

Parents are "not generally" accepted as guarantors by the **Household Mortgage Corporation**, but may apply for a remortgage or further advance. Any student application "would be judged on its merit".

Leeds Permanent and the **Nationwide** say students' income is their main concern. Part-time earnings do not count, the Leeds adds, but it makes second mortgages available to parents among its borrowers, or private purpose loans up to £15,000 for those who are not.

AN ESTIMATED 185,500 people aged 21 and under are now buying their homes, Council of Mortgage Lenders' calculations suggest.

The council is "cautious" about this approximate total; but, if accurate, it may reflect that the trend two years ago towards starting home ownership later in life is on the wane. Within Britain, the national average age of debut buyers is now 27 to 28, probably the lowest of any European Union country.

The CML figure, extrapolated from a small, across-the-board sample comprising part of independent 1993 research for the council and the Building Societies Association, emerges in a fairly favourable climate for young buyers, their guarantors and those buying on their behalf.

Influences chiefly include attractive fixed-rate loans, shortage of affordable rented accommodation and availability of "sensibly priced" or bargain properties, despite the vaunted recovery.

Also, lenders are impressed by surveys reiterating young adults' continuing preference for owner-occupation. Motivation, means and a mature attitude are also important.

Drawbacks to flat self rule

The Leasehold Reform Act of November 1993 entitles leaseholders in blocks of flats to extend their leases by up to 90 years. Last week it was revealed that not a single flat dweller seems to have taken advantage of this rule. Launching an advisory helpline, Sir George Young, the Housing Minister, admitted the legislation is so complex that many leaseholders have been put off.

Leaseholders who have tried the alternative - buying a share in the freehold of their block - have also discovered their new found freedom has its drawbacks. Under the new rules, if two thirds agree, leaseholders can collectively buy the freehold of their whole block. They can then form a management company and appoint their own agents. But as the leaseholders who originally started the company age or move on, there is a declining efficiency curve. Leaseholders capable of running the show professionally are likely to be rare.

A code of good practice, to upgrade the standard of management of flats, is being prepared by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors for incorporation under the Leasehold Reform Act. If accepted, it should plug loopholes in an area still requiring proper regulation, and safeguard flat-owners' rights.

Flat owners who manage their own properties will find themselves having to make legal and financial decisions.

Leigh Court, near Harrow School, was incorporated as a company in 1984, a few months before I moved in. It began life with a 99-year lease; the company now wants to extend the dwindling term to 999 years. The question is whether to replace the existing lease with a new one or simply attach a "deed of variation".

Jennifer Israel, a solicitor of Whetstone, North London, says "a deed of variation will suffice for a simple cosmetic change, but if you're dealing with an older lease — say prior to 1970 — you're probably better off with a completely new one". The legal cost of executing a deed of variation is about £180-£200 per flat.

DAVID RUDNICK

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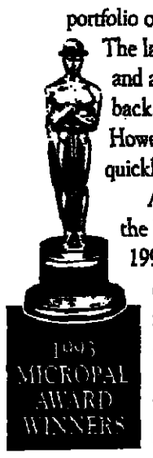
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Margaret Dibben looks at moves to establish a deposit protection scheme for the self-help groups run by a limited company

Credit union users may soon have safety net

Credit union members should soon have the protection of a compensation scheme. Unlike banks, building societies and insurance companies, there is no safety net if a credit union goes bust.

The two main support associations for credit unions plan to meet the regulator, the Registrar for Friendly Societies, to discuss a deposit protection scheme.

The Association of British Credit Unions (Abcul) will be asking members at its annual meeting on March 11 to vote for a compensation fund. Michael Parkinson, the chief executive, is optimistic that the proposal will be accepted. "The majority are all for it," he says.

Each credit union will pay a proportion of its funds, perhaps between 1 per cent and 2 per cent, into the scheme, which will be run by a limited company. It will guarantee of maximum of 75 per cent of member's savings.

Mr Parkinson adds: "We hope to set up the company by next September." A report published this week recommends that all credit unions should form a share protection scheme, either individually or through an association.

Saving for credit: the future for credit unions in Britain, published by the National Consumer Council (NCC) and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, also recommends the establishment of a national liaison committee to co-ordinate the various associations and help to overcome some of the problems hindering the expansion of credit unions.

Members must share a common bond — community, workplace, or social

Credit unions are self-help organisations, almost entirely run by volunteers, where members save up to a maximum of £5,000 and can borrow up to £5,000 plus the amount of their savings. The rate of interest is fixed at 1 per cent a month.

The Deregulation Bill, which is now being discussed in Parliament, suggests that these saving and borrowing limits should be raised without the need for primary legislation.

One of the main hurdles, according to the report, is the common bond, which some credit unions find too restrictive. Members must share a common bond, which is either community (they live within a small area), workplace or social (they attend the same church or club).

Another obstacle is the model rule book. To be accepted by the registry, credit unions must produce an acceptable set of rules. Most credit unions buy model rules from one of the associations, but once they have chosen them, they cannot change their minds.


THE OPEN UNIVERSITY

EMPLOYEES of the Open University, above, are queuing up to apply to join a credit union that has just been set up. The credit union would have preferred not to join a federation. But Monica Shelley, a lecturer and vice-chairman of the university credit union, says: "We had to affiliate because of the model rules, and after a long debate we have affiliated to Abcul mainly because virtually all the workplace credit unions are members of Abcul."

Three years ago, the Open University produced a credit union start-up pack for the NCC, and it was working on this that first sparked interest among the university staff. Mrs Shelley says: "If we write packs for people saying what a good thing credit unions are, we thought we should put our money where our mouths are and have our own." The Open University has about 9,000 staff, of whom 3,500 are full-time, spread throughout Britain. Between 300 and 500 employees should join within the first year.

As a workplace credit union, it has a free office and meeting place and contributions will be deducted from payroll. It can tap into expertise on the campus but, because it must be self-supporting, it is leasing a computer from the university.

The registry has now accepted the OU credit union's common bond and the official paperwork went out this week. It should be registered within a month or so, which will be the culmination of many months of hard work by the founder members. Initially, members will probably save about £40 a month each.

Bernadette Attwell, who works in the university's copyright office, says: "I am saving for my daughters' weddings. It will take the heartache out of wondering where I will get the money."

Ray Munns, a cartographer in the university's graphic design department, became a founder member of the OU credit union. He says: "Initially, I saw it as a way of saving for large items, but now I think I will use the facility for small short-term loans like paying the car tax."

Latin America trusts launched

The emphasis in emerging stock-market investments has switched from Far Eastern markets to Latin America. Next week sees the launch of three specialist Latin American investment trusts, from Templeton, Morgan Grenfell and Edinburgh Fund Managers.

Latin America accounts for 33 per cent of the world's emerging stock markets, compared with more than 50 per cent for South East Asia and the Indian subcontinent.

But the managers of all three trusts say growth potential in Latin America is probably greater than in the Far East. In particular, they argue that benefits from the Nafta trade agreement signed last November between Mexico and America should start to filter through to other markets in the region.

Even more important, according to *Alan Nesbit*, fund manager at the Morgan Grenfell trust, is that inflation is under control in most countries in the region. "Argentina is a classic example. In 1989, it had an annual inflation rate of 5,000 per cent. This year, it is close to 6 per cent. For the whole region, we expect a growth rate of 5 per cent a year until the year 2,000."


Mark Mobius: diversity

Mark Mobius, head of the team running the Templeton trust, says: "Mexico and Brazil are two of the largest markets, with a great deal of diversification and plenty of medium and smaller companies to choose from."

Investors reluctant to commit lump-sum investments to such volatile markets may prefer to test the water through a low-cost monthly savings scheme, starting between £30 and £50 a month. All three new investment trusts will introduce such schemes after their shares begin trading on the London Stock Exchange next month.

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Pep wars cut the cost of fund charges

Should tax incentives govern the choice of personal equity plans, **Robert Miller** asks

An aggressive marketing campaign by personal equity plan providers is moving into top gear before the end of the tax year on April 5. Pep managers insist it makes sense to secure the first £6,000 of a stock market investment in the tax-free environment of a general Pep — and a further £3,000 can be sheltered in a single company plan.

But should the tax incentives override more fundamental investment considerations, such as a long-term performance record?

The best Pep is a sound, well-managed unit or investment trust, or a single company share with good growth prospects. But managing Peps is all about volume: because they are expensive to administer, managers need a great deal of business to make the plans profitable to run. So an increasing number of unit trust groups are cutting their standard front-end charges (usually 5.25 per cent).

M&G, for example, scrapped the initial charge on its fund-of-funds managed income Pep, and replaced it with an exit charge if the money is withdrawn in the first five years. Fidelity and Gartmore have cut their initial charges to 2 per cent and introduced a reducing exit penalty over the first three years. Murray Johnstone and Scottish Equitable have also cut their Pep charges, with the former waiving its initial charge on unit trust Peps altogether until the end of the tax year.

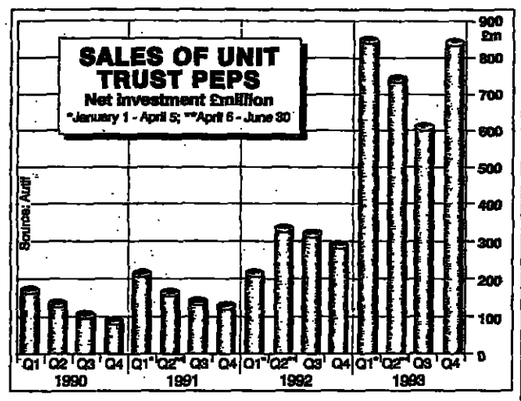
However, in a survey of the Pep market, this month's issue of *Planned Savings* warns that since most investors will hold their Peps for more than five years, managers will make little money on exit or back-end fees. It concludes: "It would seem likely that Pep providers will be tempted to put up the annual charge to compensate."

● *The March issue of* Planned Savings *is available for £5.50 from the Subscriptions Department, Audit House, 260 Field End Road, Eastcote, Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 9LT. The Chase de Vere PEP guide costs £9.95 (071-404 5766).*


JUDAH PASSOW

Find a plan to suit

Roz Barder, left, editor of Chase de Vere's Pep guide, says: "More and more Pep managers will start to introduce lower charging structures, and replace initial charges with reducing exit penalties for withdrawal in the first three to five years. Although charges do play an important part in selecting a Pep, it is just as crucial to find the right plan for individual circumstances. We recommend that investors draw up a shortlist of suitable trusts, bearing in mind whether income or capital growth is the priority, or a combination of both. In assessing performance look at the group's results as a whole over all their trusts. Top of the table trusts in one particular sector are not necessarily an indication of a solid track record in all markets. If there is any doubt, an investor should seek independent advice."



Investors look at DIY

SELF-SELECT Peps are becoming popular with investors who want to try the DIY approach. A number of investors now have two or three Peps with different managers, and can exercise greater control by bringing them all under the umbrella of a self-select plan. Among those who welcome private investors are Barclays Stockbrokers, Waters Lumniss, part of the Norwich & Peterborough Building Society, and Killick & Co.

Some managers charge for each dividend collected, while others include the cost in the annual fee, which should be about 1 per cent. Annual fees for a single company plan should average 0.5 per cent, and dealing costs 1 per cent.

The corporate self-select Pep is a popular compromise. British companies, including BAA and BET, offer low-cost plans, providing that a minimum number of their particular company shares are held in the Pep. Some corporate self-select Peps also allow unit and investment trusts to be included in the portfolio.

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1 YEAR	35 OUT OF 162	44.7	1
5 YEARS	12 OUT OF 96	80.3	1
SINCE LAUNCH	3 OUT OF 28	467.8	1

Offshore Emerging Companies Fund

PERFORMANCE	POSITION IN SECTOR	% RISE	QUARTILE
1 YEAR	6 OUT OF 162	59.7	1
5 YEARS	1 OUT OF 96	200.0	1
SINCE LAUNCH	1 OUT OF 43	601.1	1

Offshore American Growth Fund

PERFORMANCE	POSITION IN SECTOR	% RISE	QUARTILE
1 YEAR	36 OUT OF 135	21.9	2
5 YEARS	5 OUT OF 79	206.0	1
SINCE LAUNCH	1 OUT OF 31	756.6	1

Offshore Far Eastern Growth Fund

PERFORMANCE	POSITION IN SECTOR	% RISE	QUARTILE
1 YEAR	8 OUT OF 66	90.0	1
5 YEARS	5 OUT OF 44	177.8	1
SINCE LAUNCH	2 OUT OF 24	417.8	1

Offshore Japanese Growth Fund

PERFORMANCE	POSITION IN SECTOR	% RISE	QUARTILE
1 YEAR	47 OUT OF 108	45.5	2
5 YEARS	–	–	–
SINCE LAUNCH	3 OUT OF 95	50.1	1

Offshore European Growth Fund

PERFORMANCE	POSITION IN SECTOR	% RISE	QUARTILE
1 YEAR	51 OUT OF 119	32.8	2
5 YEARS	7 OUT OF 60	83.3	1
SINCE LAUNCH	6 OUT OF 23	120.3	2

Offshore UK Growth Fund

PERFORMANCE	POSITION IN SECTOR	% RISE	QUARTILE
1 YEAR	7 OUT OF 68	40.0	1
5 YEARS	1 OUT OF 42	96.8	1
SINCE LAUNCH	1 OUT OF 31	198.4	1

Offshore Global Bond Fund

PERFORMANCE	POSITION IN SECTOR	% RISE	QUARTILE
1 YEAR	69 OUT OF 153	9.1	2
5 YEARS	–	–	–
SINCE LAUNCH	46 OUT OF 135	13.3	2

Offshore Asian Smaller Markets Fund

PERFORMANCE	POSITION IN SECTOR	% RISE	QUARTILE
1 YEAR	–	–	–
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SINCE LAUNCH	15 OUT OF 93	84.7	1

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Fixed Interest	327.60	346.70	-3.20	...
Money	245.50	259.80	-0.20	...
International	374.80	396.70	+1.10	...

AETNA LIFE INSURANCE
2-12 Pentonville Road, London N1 9XD
0800 010575

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Life Funds				
Squirrel	17.64	18.57	+0.01	...
Bear	19.51	20.54	-0.33	...
Owl	20.38	21.45	-0.13	...
Bull	18.55	19.53	-0.31	...
Stag	20.02	21.07	-0.42	...
Gilt Edged	18.87	19.86	+0.68	...
Deposit	15.51	16.33	+0.83	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	23.78	24.95	+0.02	...
Bear	26.68	28.08	-0.22	...
Owl	27.67	29.13	-0.19	...
Bull	23.79	25.04	-0.55	...
Stag	25.08	26.40	-0.67	...
Gilt Edged	23.39	24.62	+0.86	...
Deposit	19.82	20.86	+1.06	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	597.41	597.42	-9.87	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	361.41	380.43	-4.12	...
N Amer Equity	300.72	316.55	-1.08	...
Far East Equity	430.23	452.87	-17.80	...
Fixed	296.03	311.61	-5.04	...
Cash Deposit	200.17	210.71	+0.16	...
Property	149.71	157.59	+5.68	...
Special Opp	407.07	428.49	-6.06	...
Managed	316.53	333.19	-7.02	...
Index-Linked Fd	191.02	201.07	-2.50	...

ABBEY LIFE
Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL
0202 292373

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property Fd Inc	275.70	290.30	+2.60	...
-do- Acc	503.50	530.10	+4.70	...
Equity Fd Inc	175.60	184.90	-0.40	...
-do- Acc	227.90	239.90	-0.60	...
Selective Fd	486.90	512.60	+0.70	...
Money Fd	367.70	387.10	+0.20	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	392.00	412.70	+3.70	...
Equity Ser 4	217.10	228.60	-0.40	...
Man Ser 4	677.00	712.70	-6.30	...
Conv Ser 4	321.10	338.10	...	...
Money Ser 4	320.90	337.80	+0.10	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	347.70	366.00	-1.40	...
American Ser 4	515.20	542.40	-4.00	...
High Inc Ser 4	680.00	715.80	-1.80	...
Indexed Inv Ser 4	210.90	222.10	-0.30	...
Japan Ser 4	378.70	398.70	-1.70	...

ALBANY LIFE
3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ
0707 42311

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Fd Acc	1598.7	1682.8	-10.40	...
European Fd Acc	368.80	388.20	-7.00	...
Fixed Int Acc	523.00	550.50	-2.40	...
Gtd Money Acc	326.30	343.40	+0.20	...
Intl Managed Acc	604.70	636.50	-6.50	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	320.90	337.70	-3.60	...
Japan Fund	307.60	323.80	-0.20	...
N American Acc	323.10	340.10	-3.70	...
Prop Fd Acc	423.50	445.70	+0.40	...
Multiple Inv Acc	1066.0	1122.1	-9.70	...

ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE
Swindon SN1 1EL
0793 514514

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Fxd Int Dep Acc	363.20	382.40	+0.20	...
Equity Acc	1443.9	1519.9	-11.70	...
Property Acc	531.40	559.40	+0.10	...
Far East Acc	346.60	364.90	-7.50	...
Managed Capital	550.40	579.40	-4.10	...
-do- Acc	1109.7	1168.2	-7.80	...
Overseas Acc	977.20	1028.7	-2.20	...
Gilt Edged Acc	484.90	510.50	-0.80	...
Amer Equity Acc	739.80	778.80	-6.30	...
Amer Man Acc	316.90	333.60	-2.80	...
Amer Prop Acc	117.80	124.00	-1.00	...

AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE
Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks
0494 463463

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Reserve Ser 5	148.00	155.70	-0.10	...
Balced Ser 5	697.90	734.60	-1.70	...
Opportunity Ser 5	163.00	171.50	-1.70	...
Distribution Ser 5	103.20	108.60	-1.00	...
UK Equities Ser 5	968.00	1018.9	+2.70	...
Higher Inc Ser 5	1035.9	1090.4	-1.70	...
North Amer Ser 5	428.20	450.70	-5.20	...
Far East Ser 5	578.50	608.90	-15.90	...
Europe Ser 5	357.80	376.60	-9.60	...
Intnl Ser 5	555.10	584.30	-13.90	...
Property Ser 5	527.50	555.20	+0.30	...
Fixed Int Ser 5	413.60	435.30	-1.60	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec S5	180.90	190.40	-0.10	...
Gteed Dep Ser 5	289.60	304.80	+0.20	...

BARCLAYS LIFE
252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB
081 534 5544

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Acc	854.70	899.70	-2.90	...
-do- Initial	579.60	610.20	-2.00	...
Gilt Edged Acc	386.80	407.20	-1.30	...
-do- Initial	264.60	278.60	-0.90	...
International Acc	413.20	435.00	-8.30	...
-do- Initial	280.90	295.70	-5.60	...
Managed Acc	530.70	558.70	-4.00	...
-do- Initial	362.00	381.10	-2.80	...
Money Acc	284.10	299.10	+0.20	...
Property Acc	281.90	296.80	+0.30	...
-do- Initial	190.90	201.00	+0.10	...
America Acc	288.10	303.30	-4.60	...
Australia Acc	229.20	241.30	-5.50	...
Financial Acc	333.90	351.50	-6.20	...
500 Accum	467.10	491.70	-1.90	...
Japan Genl Acc	379.10	399.10	-7.30	...
Income Acc	530.80	558.80	-2.60	...
Leisure Acc	240.60	253.30	-0.20	...
Special Sits Acc	243.70	256.60	-1.60	...
Univ Tech Acc	157.50	165.80	-3.00	...

BLACK HORSE LIFE
Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF
0634 834000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
The Managed Fd	809.56	809.56	-8.63	...
Income Fund	764.88	805.14	-2.59	...
Extra Income	699.46	736.28	-3.25	...
Worldwide Gth	519.28	546.62	-18.87	...
Balanced Fund	662.72	697.60	-2.96	...
Smllr Cos Recov	719.70	757.58	+1.08	...
N Amer & Genrl	380.25	400.30	-13.09	...
Pacific Basin	462.55	486.90	-35.58	...
German Growth	225.74	237.63	-5.93	...
Japan Growth	196.83	207.19	-3.39	...
The UK Gth Fd	210.69	221.78	-1.15	...
Contl Euro Gth	128.07	134.82	-4.78	...
Property Fund	389.07	409.55	-1.56	...
Fixed Interest	314.40	330.95	-7.31	...
Cash Fund	276.75	291.32	+0.16	...
Managed Inv	490.07	515.87	-5.67	...
Nth Amer Recov	258.13	271.72	-10.00	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Grth	488.55	514.27	-3.85	...

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE
PO Box 37, Greenock, Renfrewshire
0475 868000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Measured Perf	170.90	180.80	-0.20	...
Performance Plus	174.20	184.30	+1.20	...
With Profit Perf	166.70	176.40	+0.20	...
UK Opportunity	183.60	194.20	-1.20	...
Euro Opportunity	224.10	237.10	-0.30	...
North Amer Opp	174.80	184.90	-0.90	...
Far East Opp	206.70	218.70	-8.20	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	142.00	149.40	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	178.20	188.50	+1.10	...
Fixed Int	188.70	199.60	-3.90	...
Cash	153.00	161.90	+0.20	...
Overseas	200.80	212.40	+1.40	...

CANADA LIFE
2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA
0707 51122

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Growth	£238.60	...	...	...
Managed	332.60	350.20	-2.80	...
Property	224.50	236.40	+0.40	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	245.10	258.00	-1.70	...
Equity	372.40	392.10	-2.80	...
Cash	212.90	224.20	+0.10	...
CLife Euro Mgd	369.50	389.00	-1.20	...
CLife Intl Fd	362.70	381.90	-4.60	...

For Cannon see Lincoln National

CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE
Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 0908 606101

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property Fund	182.20	191.80	-0.40	...
Managed Fund	612.10	644.40	-2.70	...
Equity Fund	346.30	364.60	-1.40	...

CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0272 290566

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	295.20	310.80	-1.40	...
Ruby	175.20	184.50	-1.50	...
Emerald	144.40	152.10	...	...
Equity	333.90	351.50	-0.40	...
Property	215.00	226.40	+1.50	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	210.60	221.70	-0.80	...
Indexed Secs	166.30	175.10	+0.30	...
Cash	182.90	192.60	+0.10	...
Nth American	222.40	234.20	...	...
Far East	340.20	358.20	-7.30	...
International	240.20	252.90	-1.70	...
Special Sits	348.70	367.10	-4.70	...
Intl Income	297.00	312.70	-1.80	...
American Inc	193.30	203.50	-0.70	...
European	310.40	326.80	-3.10	...
Japanese	149.20	157.10	-0.40	...
SE Asia	378.10	399.10	-5.40	...
With Profits Reg	156.10	164.40	+0.20	...
-do- Spec	156.10	164.40	+0.20	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	328.10	345.40	-2.20	...
Equity	389.40	409.90	-0.20	...
Property	194.90	205.20	+0.80	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	255.80	269.30	-2.90	...
Index Linked	175.00	184.30	-0.80	...
Cash	242.20	255.00	+0.10	...
Nth American	273.40	287.80	-1.20	...
Far East Acc	339.40	357.30	-4.90	...
International Acc	309.60	325.90	-3.60	...
Special Sits	504.50	531.10	-1.60	...
European Flex	437.30	460.40	-5.00	...

COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP
Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 0634 890 000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
(Units):Key	£236.01	...	...	...
-do- Pacemaker	£330.29	...	...	...
-do- Cash	199.61	210.12	+0.10	...
-do- Equity	548.17	577.02	+0.93	...
-do- Fxd Int	374.07	393.76	-2.24	...
-do- Managed	392.94	413.62	-0.30	...
-do- Property	381.36	401.43	+0.47	...
(Pens): Cash Cap	207.28	218.20	+0.03	...
-do- Cash Inv	295.50	311.06	+0.26	...
-do- Equity Cap	1460.4	1537.3	-11.74	...
-do- Equity Inv	2082.0	2191.8	-14.99	...
-do- Fixed Cap	401.71	422.86	-5.48	...
-do- Fixed Inv	572.67	602.83	-7.40	...
-do- Index Cap	206.83	217.73	-0.91	...
-do- Index Inv	294.86	310.39	-1.08	...
Mngd Cap	575.22	605.51	-4.68	...
Mngd Inv	820.03	863.20	-6.10	...

COMMERCIAL UNION
St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3. 071 283 7500

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Var Ann Acc (5)	£708.20	...	-15.93	...
Var Ann (5)	392.92	...	-1.57	...
Prime: Managed	411.20	432.90	-0.60	...
Prime: UK Equity	493.90	519.90	+2.40	...
Prime: Int Equity	316.60	333.30	-4.80	...
Prime: Property	233.70	246.00	+1.50	...
Prime Fxd Int	241.80	254.60	-3.80	...
Prime Index-Lnk	172.60	181.70	-0.10	...
Prime: Cash	200.50	211.10	+0.10	...

CONFEDERATION LIFE
Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN
0438 744840

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	1168.4	1229.8	-13.60	...
Equity Fund	1693.1	1782.2	-30.40	...

CROWN FINANCIAL
Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW
0483 715033

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Life Mangd Acc	601.90	633.50	-3.30	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	372.10	391.60	-1.90	...
Life Equity Acc	826.60	870.10	-4.20	...
Life Money Acc	294.40	309.80	+0.20	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	844.90	889.30	-6.30	...
Life Intl Acc	515.90	543.00	-6.40	...
Life High Inc Acc	789.70	831.20	+0.90	...
Life Property Acc	272.50	286.80	+8.30	...
Crown Brit Inv A	1389.9	...	...	...
Brewin Equity	700.50	737.30	-17.80	...
Life Equity Acc	234.00	246.30	...	...

EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE
Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 0242 221311

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Secure Fund	171.10	180.20	...	...
Blue Chip Fund	248.80	261.90	-2.30	...
-do- Series 2	161.10	169.60	-1.50	...
Adventurous Fd	212.50	223.70	-3.80	...
-do- Series 2	161.00	169.50	-2.80	...
Performance Fd	258.00	271.60	-3.40	...
-do- Series 2	168.50	177.40	-2.30	...
UK Pref Fxd Int	145.00	152.70	-1.20	...
UK Equity Fund	163.30	171.90	-1.10	...
Property Fund	115.90	122.10	+0.40	...
Envrnmntl Opps	162.20	170.80	-1.10	...
Euro Fund	181.50	191.10	-2.50	...
North Amer Fd	199.50	210.10	+0.10	...
Oriental Ops	245.40	258.40	-6.80	...
Japanese Fund	136.40	143.60	-3.00	...
Bd & West Life	119.40	125.70	+0.10	...
Bd & West Pen	132.30	139.30	+0.10	...

EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND
60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 071 929 1111

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Eagle/Mid Uts	277.60	287.70	-3.60	3.18

FRIENDS' PROVIDENT
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH
0722 413366

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed (Mixd)	308.50	324.80	-2.10	...
UK Equity	408.50	430.00	-1.60	...
Stewardship	360.70	379.70	-0.60	...
Overseas Equity	286.90	302.00	-4.80	...
North American	152.50	160.60	-1.70	...
Pacific Basin	171.60	180.70	-4.50	...
European	200.90	211.50	-4.20	...
Property	203.40	214.20	+3.10	...
Fixed Interest	232.80	245.10	-3.50	...
Index Linked	167.10	175.90	+0.30	...
Cash	195.50	205.80	+0.10	...

GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD
Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 071 710 4567

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
GT Plan Far East	376.90	396.80	-19.60	...
GT Plan Wwide	552.50	581.60	-24.20	...

GENERAL ACCIDENT
2 Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR. 0904 628982

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	211.20	222.20	-1.90	...
Unitised Profit	129.10	135.80	+0.20	...
UK Equity	281.90	296.60	-0.10	...
Fixed Int	198.00	208.30	-1.50	...
Index-Linked	165.70	174.40	...	...
Cash Deposit	170.70	179.60	+0.10	...
Property	181.40	190.80	+0.20	...
International	190.10	200.00	-4.60	...
American	160.00	168.30	-0.70	...
Japan	263.60	277.30	-1.10	...
Japan Smllr Cos	269.90	284.00	-1.10	...
European	180.00	189.30	-3.00	...
Pacific Fund	299.90	315.60	-12.90	...
Conv Life	138.40	145.60	-2.50	...

GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE
Gen Portfolio House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 0279 626262

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Portfolio Acc	714.10	714.10	-4.30	...
-do- Inv A	714.00	751.70	-4.50	...
UK Equity	407.10	428.70	-1.10	...
Gilt Plus	208.60	219.70	-0.50	...
Managed	314.00	330.60	-2.00	...
Inter Man	282.50	297.50	-2.60	...

GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE
Royal Exchange London EC3. 071 283 7101

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Ass Prop Bds	753.10	784.50	+16.70	...
Managed Initial	494.60	520.70	-1.30	...
-do- Acc	693.50	730.00	-1.50	...
Equity Initial	725.70	763.90	+2.60	...
-do- Acc	1017.5	1071.0	+4.10	...
Fixed Int Initial	458.80	482.90	-6.40	...
-do- Acc	643.20	677.10	-8.70	...
Intl Initial	489.60	515.40	-6.20	...
-do- Acc	686.50	722.60	-8.40	...
Nth Amer Initial	187.50	197.40	+2.90	...
-do- Acc	239.30	251.90	+3.80	...
Pacific Initial	266.00	280.00	...	...
-do- Acc	336.20	353.90	+0.10	...
Property Initial	170.10	179.10	+3.20	...
-do- Acc	238.40	251.00	+4.90	...
Index-Lnkd Initl	161.50	170.00	-0.80	...
-do- Acc	206.10	216.90	-0.90	...
Deposit Initial	195.50	205.80	...	...
-do- Acc	274.10	288.60	+0.20	...
Euro Initial	104.20	109.70	+0.60	...
-do- Acc	122.90	129.40	+0.80	...

HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE
Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 0277 200939

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	166.50	177.30	-1.30	...
-do- Pens	206.90	217.70	-1.90	...
UK Equity	167.60	176.40	-0.30	...
-do- Pens	190.50	200.50	-0.40	...
International	145.70	153.30	-4.40	...
-do- Pens	158.20	166.50	-5.40	...
Deposit	137.20	144.40	+0.10	...
-do- Pens	161.00	169.40	+0.10	...

HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION
3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA
071 638 5757

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity Fd	379.50	403.80	-2.00	...
North America	361.30	384.40	-1.90	...
Far East Fund	679.90	723.40	-13.40	...
Global Managed	487.20	518.30	-4.60	...
Deposit Fund	224.50	236.40	+0.10	...
Prime Residential	128.60	135.40	...	...
European Fund	263.40	280.30	-2.00	...
Fixed Interest	68.10	72.50	-1.90	...

HILL SAMUEL LIFE
NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Security Fund	517.00	547.10	-0.60	...
British Fund	530.60	561.50	-2.50	...
International	534.70	565.90	-7.90	...
Dollar Fund	375.90	397.80	-1.70	...
Capital Fund	477.20	505.00	-1.90	...
Income Fund	708.10	749.40	-0.70	...
Property Series A	434.10	459.40	+0.50	4.80
Property Units	712.60	748.30	+4.40	...
Financial Fund	590.60	625.00	-10.10	...
Managed Ser A	552.40	584.60	-1.50	...
Managed Units	989.50	1041.6	-2.70	...
High Yield Fund	680.30	719.90	-3.90	...
Money Series A	281.50	297.90	+0.20	...
Money Units	372.20	391.80	+0.40	...
Equity Fund	630.30	667.00	-1.60	...
Fixed Interest	384.30	406.70	-3.50	...
Indexed Secs	185.50	196.30	+0.20	...
European Fund	731.20	773.80	-11.50	...
Natural Res	297.60	315.00	-4.10	...
Far East Fund	683.90	723.80	-10.10	...
Smaller Cos	328.60	339.40	+1.60	...
Special Sits	458.10	484.80	-2.20	...
Man Currency	257.60	272.60	-1.30	...
Japanese Tech	286.90	303.60	+0.20	...
US Smaller Cos	228.70	242.10	+1.60	...

IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE
Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 0727 48181

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Global Managed	564.20	593.90	-0.60	...
Global Property	281.00	295.80	...	...
Global Fixed Int	518.80	546.10	-4.60	...
Global Equity	598.50	630.00	+0.20	...
Global Cash	208.30	219.30	...	...

LAURENTIAN LIFE
Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ
0452 371371

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Gtd Mgd	490.00	515.70	-2.60	...
Property	472.70	497.50	-0.20	...
Managed	425.60	448.00	-3.20	...
American	409.50	431.00	+0.20	...
UK Equity Fd	459.80	484.00	-2.00	...
Japan	223.80	235.50	-4.70	...
Index-Lkd	183.00	192.60	-0.40	...
High Yield	866.80	912.40	-3.40	...
Growth Cap	438.90	461.90	-2.70	...
Money	393.60	414.30	+0.20	...
International	404.90	426.20	-6.80	...
Henderson Active	226.90	238.80	-2.90	...
Perpetual Active	338.10	355.80	-6.20	...
Growth Cap	438.90	461.90	-2.70	...
-do- Acc	664.40	699.30	-5.10	...

LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE
2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE
0273 824000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
B Soc Lnkd Init	135.10	142.30	...	...
-do- Acc	182.10	191.70	+0.10	...
Brit Opps Init	147.70	155.50	-0.20	...
-do- Acc	179.20	188.70	+0.20	...
Cash Initial	166.90	175.70	-0.60	...
-do- Acc	281.00	295.80	...	...
Equity Initial	670.90	706.30	-2.50	...
-do- Acc	1129.1	1188.6	-1.20	...
Fixed Initial	356.40	375.20	-2.60	...
-do- Acc	599.90	631.50	-2.90	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	137.30	144.60	-0.10	...
-do- Acc	197.10	207.50	+0.30	...
Intl Initial	367.30	386.70	-8.60	...
-do- Acc	608.60	640.70	-12.60	...
Managed Initial	492.10	518.00	-10.60	...
-do- Acc	828.20	871.80	-15.50	...
Property Initial	211.80	223.00	+9.10	...
-do- Acc	356.40	375.20	+16.10	...

LIFE ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND
113 Dundas Street, Edinburgh EH3 5EB
031 550 5900

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	359.60	378.60	-1.90	...
UK Equity	587.10	618.00	-3.90	...
Property	296.00	311.60	-0.10	...
Money Market	246.90	259.90	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	320.50	337.40	-1.70	...
Japan	419.20	441.30	-3.20	...
North America	163.40	172.00	-0.40	...
International	314.20	330.80	-0.60	...
European	285.50	300.60	-5.90	...
Far East	141.50	149.00	-1.40	...

LINCOLN NATIONAL
1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB
081 902 8876

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Units	£128.09	...	+0.09	...
Property Units	£27.22	...	+0.22	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£66.50	£70.00	-0.41	...
2nd Equity Acc	651.00	685.30	+0.40	...
2nd High Inc Ac	619.80	652.40	+0.20	...
2nd Property Acc	248.50	261.60	+2.00	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	182.40	192.00	-1.30	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	484.80	510.30	-2.70	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	243.80	256.60	-1.90	...
2nd Deposit Acc	274.80	289.20	+0.20	...
2nd Gilt Acc	306.20	322.30	-2.80	...
2nd Amer Acc	722.20	760.20	+4.00	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	259.70	273.40	-0.10	...
2nd Index Acc	200.20	210.80	-2.10	...
2nd Far East Acc	487.90	513.60	-14.00	...
2nd Global Acc	188.80	198.80	-1.00	...
2nd Euro Acc	165.40	174.10	-2.10	...
2nd Japan Acc	212.60	223.70	-3.10	...
2nd Heritage Acc	70.00	73.70	+0.10	...
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	157.10	165.40	-2.20	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	134.40	141.50	...	...

LONDON LIFE
100 Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA
0272 279179

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity	£916.70	...	-2.30	...
Fixed Interest	£416.70	...	-2.10	...
Property	£377.20	...	+7.20	...
Deposit	£284.90	...	+0.20	...
Mixed	£598.60	...	-2.40	...
Indexed Stock	£212.70	...	-0.40	...
International	£295.20	...	-4.30	...
Equity A	£213.00	...	-0.50	...
Fixed Int A	£185.10	...	-1.00	...
Property A	£166.00	...	+3.20	...
Deposit A	£167.70	...	-0.10	...
Mixed A	£197.00	...	-0.80	...
Index Stock A	£166.70	...	-0.30	...
International A	£184.60	...	-2.80	...
Equity P	£764.70	...	-2.50	...
Fixed Int P	£543.70	...	-2.00	...
Property P	£307.10	...	+4.90	...
Deposit P	£332.60	...	+0.40	...
Mixed P	£555.70	...	-3.10	...
Index Stock P	£341.90	...	-0.40	...
International P	£345.10	...	-6.20	...

LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282456

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Inv Trust Cap	£637.90	...	-10.60	...
-do- Acc	£1032.4	...	-16.20	...
Property Cap	£146.30	...	-0.40	...
-do- Acc	£229.20	...	+0.40	...
Fxd Interest Cap	£206.30	...	-1.50	...
-do- Acc	£323.50	...	-2.10	...
Equity Cap	£334.80	...	-1.70	...
-do- Acc	£531.50	...	-2.20	...
Internatl Cap	£250.30	...	-5.50	...
-do- Acc	£393.80	...	-8.30	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	£167.90	...	...	...
-do- Acc	£260.40	...	+0.10	...
Flexible Cap	£362.10	...	-3.40	...
-do- Acc	£573.50	...	-4.80	...
Moneymaker Fd	£445.70	...	-3.20	...
Capital Growth	£1710.3	...	-11.50	...

M & G
Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB
0245 266266

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Amer Bond Acc	413.20	433.90	-4.40	...
Amer Rec Bond	485.70	510.00	-6.60	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	238.70	250.80	-1.70	...
Australasia Bd	243.10	255.30	-6.30	...
Commodity Bond	319.50	335.80	-6.10	...
Deposit Bond Acc	353.60	371.40	-0.20	...
Equity Bond Acc	1529.1	1605.6	-1.30	...
European Bd Acc	376.30	395.20	-7.40	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	743.90	781.20	+7.50	...
Far East Bd Acc	338.80	355.70	-5.10	...
Gilt Bond Acc	454.70	477.60	-2.60	...
Gold Bond Acc	165.00	173.40	-1.60	...
High Yield Bond	355.50	373.30	-2.70	3.79
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	210.90	221.60	-0.60	...
International Bd	785.70	825.10	-9.70	...
Japan Bond Acc	291.00	305.80	-5.50	...
Japan Smr Cos Ac	286.30	300.80	-4.30	...
Managed Bonds	897.10	942.00	-17.60	...
Prop Bond Acc	362.70	381.00	+0.40	...
Rec Bond Acc	777.00	815.70	+2.50	...

MGM ASSURANCE
MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 0903 204631

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity	234.10	246.50	-1.10	...
UK Equity Acc	321.70	338.70	-1.20	...
Special Sits	98.60	103.80	...	...
Special Sits Acc	135.50	142.70	...	...
North American	184.50	194.30	-1.50	...
N American Acc	253.60	267.00	-1.90	...
Pacific Basin	389.30	409.80	-10.90	...
Pacific Basin Acc	534.90	563.10	-14.50	...
Fixed Interest	294.20	309.70	-1.70	...
Fixed Interest Acc	404.70	426.00	-2.20	...
Property	167.50	176.40	+3.30	...
Property Acc	230.40	242.60	+4.60	...
Deposit	152.00	160.00	...	...
Deposit Acc	209.50	220.60	+0.20	...
Managed	268.60	282.80	-2.20	...
Managed Acc	340.20	358.20	-2.40	...

MANULIFE GROUP
St Georges Way, Stevenage, Herts
0438 356101

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	715.80	753.50	-5.90	...
Property Fund	511.20	538.10	+0.70	...
Equity Fund	910.90	958.80	-6.70	...
Gilt Edged Fd	618.40	650.90	-4.00	...
Deposit Fund	323.10	340.10	+0.30	...
Investment Fd	386.60	406.00	-2.90	...
International	567.20	597.00	-7.30	...

MERCHANT INVESTORS
St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead, Bristol BS1 2NH
0272 266 366

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property	439.20	462.30	+4.80	...
UK Equity	343.80	361.80	-2.80	...
Gilt Edged	597.30	628.70	-14.70	...
Interest Fund	374.20	393.80	+0.50	...
UK Fund	501.70	528.10	-10.20	...
Intl Equity	638.90	672.50	-9.80	...
Intl Managed	587.20	618.10	-18.80	...
North American	214.60	225.80	-2.40	...
Far East	498.60	524.80	-19.00	...
Intl Currency	266.40	280.40	-4.50	...

NM LIFE ASSURANCE
Enterprise House, Portsmouth
0705 827733

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity	149.10	156.90	-1.50	...
Fixed Interest	541.80	570.30	-3.80	...
Managed	709.30	746.60	-6.70	...
Deposit	331.80	349.20	+0.20	...
Property	430.50	453.10	+0.40	...
American	409.00	430.50	-4.60	...
Australian	541.30	569.70	-12.40	...
European	519.00	546.30	-8.80	...
Global Managed	...	...	...	...
Income Acc	767.50	807.80	-4.90	...
-do- Dist	483.00	508.50	-3.70	3.70
International	322.70	339.60	-4.80	...
Japan Smaller	545.90	574.60	-5.40	...
Singapore & Mal	362.10	381.10	-25.40	...
Smaller Cos	445.80	469.20	-1.60	...
Tokyo Fund	701.00	737.80	-13.40	...
UK Equity	602.80	634.50	-2.30	...
CCM Vangd Mg	742.50	781.50	-5.60	...
Equity Pens Cap	...	...	...	...

NPI
48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH
071 623 4200

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	487.80	513.40	-2.70	...
UK Equity	608.00	640.00	-0.10	...
Overseas Equity	489.20	514.90	-9.80	...
Americas	427.60	450.10	-3.10	...
Far East	583.10	613.70	-19.60	...
Property	208.10	219.00	+3.90	...
Fixed Interest	374.30	394.40	-1.10	...
Indexed Gilt	230.50	242.60	+0.30	...
Deposit	211.40	222.50	+0.10	...

NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds
PO Box 148, Norwich NR3 1PP
0603 622200

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	1415.5	1490.0	-4.00	...
Eqty Fund	3083.6	3245.9	-8.20	...
Property Fd	572.70	602.80	+2.10	...
Fixed Int Fd	596.40	627.80	-4.60	...
Deposit Fund	339.10	356.90	+0.20	...
Intl Fund	241.00	253.70	-3.00	...

PEARL ASSURANCE
The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 0733 470 470

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Inv Prop Dist	157.50	165.80	+0.10	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	317.00	333.70	+0.30	...
Inv Equity	1209.3	1273.0	-3.70	...
Inv Managed	851.50	896.40	-6.10	...
Ret Managed	958.40	1008.9	-4.70	...

For Prolific see Scottish Provident

PROVIDENCE CAPITOL
2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA
0256 768888

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Fund Acc	291.00	307.00	-8.10	...
Fxd Interest Acc	248.70	262.40	-4.70	...
International Acc	270.90	285.80	-4.10	...
Managed Acc	228.30	240.90	-3.50	...
Property Acc	231.00	243.70	-0.10	...
Money Acc	150.40	158.70	+0.10	...
Spec Mkt Acc	246.60	260.20	-1.80	...
Japan Equity Acc	129.40	136.50	+0.10	...
N Amer Acc	168.10	177.40	-1.30	...
Pacific Acc	175.80	185.50	-4.20	...
European Acc	184.60	194.80	-3.60	...

PROVIDENT MUTUAL
William Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 0LP
0438 739000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Ord	475.30	500.30	-2.10	...
Managed Initial	328.50	345.80	-1.60	...
Equity Ord	718.50	756.30	-0.40	...
Equity Init	496.50	522.60	-0.70	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	200.40	210.90	-0.30	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	144.70	152.30	-0.20	...
Oseas Equity Ord	389.40	409.90	-8.10	...
Oseas Equity Init	269.10	283.30	-5.80	...
Property Ord	262.30	276.10	+7.50	...
Property Init	181.30	190.80	+5.00	...
Fixed Int Ord	281.20	296.00	-1.70	...
Fixed Int Init	194.30	204.50	-1.30	...
Deposit Ord	201.80	212.40	+0.20	...
Deposit Initial	139.40	146.70	...	...

PRUDENTIAL
Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH
071 405 9222

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	343.60	358.00	-1.80	...

PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS
1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP
071 548 3228

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	796.90	838.90	-5.00	...
Equity Fund	1506.4	1585.7	-5.90	...
Intl Fund	620.10	652.80	-4.80	...
Fixed Interest	575.10	605.40	-2.70	...
Property Fund	429.30	451.90	+0.40	...
Cash Fund	357.40	376.30	+0.10	...
Pacific Basin	372.90	392.60	-7.00	...
N American Fd	241.20	253.90	-0.90	...
Euro Fund	261.50	275.30	-3.70	...
Balanced Fund	155.80	164.10	-0.90	...
Strategic Fund	165.20	173.90	-0.50	...

ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE
Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 0733 390000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Mult Grow (45)	£812.60	...	...	...
-do- Acc	506.30	533.00	...	...
Op Prop	469.00	493.70	-0.70	...
Op Equity	931.00	980.00	-2.40	...
Op High Yield	582.00	612.70	-1.00	...
Op Managed	817.50	860.60	-5.60	...
Op Deposit	383.90	404.20	+0.50	...
Inc Gth	310.60	327.00	-1.40	...
Japan Smlr	282.10	297.00	-4.70	...
Managed Gth	271.30	285.60	-1.20	...
Gilt	84.60	89.10	-0.40	...
British	374.10	393.80	-0.50	...
Global Bond	116.00	122.20	-2.90	...
Global (35.34)	171.90	181.00	-2.30	...
Gold Share	91.10	95.90	+1.00	...
High Income	317.60	334.40	-2.80	...
Income	444.30	467.70	-5.60	...
Japan	465.30	489.80	-4.20	...
UK Smlr Cos	340.30	358.30	+0.40	...
Mngd Growth	486.50	512.20	-4.00	...

ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE
New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS
051 239 3000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Royal Shield Fd	978.80	1035.7	-5.20	...
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	390.00	410.50	-2.10	...
Equity Fund	535.40	563.50	-1.50	...
Property Fund	320.60	337.40	+1.70	...
International	498.60	524.80	-3.60	...
Pacific Basin	308.40	324.60	-4.70	...
United States	258.90	272.50	+0.10	...
Gilt Fund	363.80	382.90	-1.20	...

SAVE & PROSPER
16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 0708 766966

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Bal Inv Fund	770.80	815.70	-4.30	2.19
Deposit Fund (2)	360.90	382.00	+0.40	5.75
Gilt Fund	522.30	552.80	-2.00	8.00
Global Equity Fd	243.10	257.30	-3.80	...
Property Fund (46)	100.40	106.30	...	3.87
AG Bond Fund	161.80	171.30	-5.00	...

SCOTTISH AMICABLE
150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow
041 248 2323

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity	591.00	622.20	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	380.60	400.70	+0.70	...
Index-Linked	198.20	208.70	-0.30	...
International	472.50	497.40	-3.30	...
Property	296.90	312.00	-0.30	...
Cash	224.70	236.60	+0.10	...
Managed	472.10	497.00	-0.90	...
Cap Gteed Bd	112.00	117.90	-0.10	...

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE
28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF
031 556 9101

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Cash	177.30	186.63	+0.15	...
Index-Linked	162.10	170.60	-0.30	...
Fixed Interest	178.00	187.40	-0.60	...
Mixed	256.80	270.30	-1.80	...
UK Equity	242.20	254.90	-0.20	...
International	263.20	277.00	-4.50	...
American	254.80	268.20	-1.10	...
Japan	248.20	261.40	-2.00	...
European	247.60	260.70	-3.30	...
Pacific	387.30	407.70	-12.00	...
Technology	365.50	384.80	-1.80	...
Curncy/Curncy	228.00	240.00	-3.70	...

SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS
19 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE
031 225 2211

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property	210.60	221.80	+5.00	...
UK Equity	363.10	382.40	-0.10	...
American	256.80	270.40	-3.60	...
Pacific	380.70	400.80	-7.50	...
European	471.50	496.40	-9.40	...
International	320.90	337.90	-4.80	...
Fixed Interest	245.10	258.10	-0.90	...
Index Linked	197.00	207.50	-0.10	...
Deposit	189.70	199.70	+0.10	...
Managed	292.00	307.50	-1.00	...
Worldwide	131.40	138.40	-1.10	...
Pen Worldwide	140.40	147.90	-1.40	...

SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE
109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN
041 248 6321

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Flex Fund (35)	1719.5	1772.7	...	...
Safety Fund	236.50	249.00	-1.80	...
Growth Fund	232.00	244.30	-2.90	...
Opportunity Fd	227.10	239.10	-2.80	...
Cash Fund	170.70	179.70	+0.10	...
European Fund	339.70	357.60	-10.40	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	200.60	211.20	-1.80	...
Index-Linked Fd	181.40	191.00	-0.20	...
International Fd	298.30	314.10	-6.50	...
North American	247.90	261.00	-1.60	...
Property Fund	121.50	127.90	...	...
UK Equity	243.90	256.80	-3.20	...
UK Smaller	243.30	256.20	-1.30	...

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT
6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA
031 556 9181

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Mixed	275.70	290.40	-1.30	...
Equity	290.00	305.30	-0.20	...
International	295.30	310.90	-3.10	...
Property	223.40	235.30	+3.30	...
Fixed Interest	219.70	231.40	-1.50	...
Index Linked	180.20	189.80	+0.30	...
Cash	183.20	192.90	+0.10	...
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	821.30	873.70	-4.40	...
Cash Fund	331.30	349.20	+0.30	...
Property Fund	244.30	259.90	+3.40	...
Equity Fund	980.30	1042.9	-9.80	...
Fxd Interest Fund	459.20	483.90	-4.00	...
International	439.50	467.60	-4.90	...
High Income	728.10	774.60	-2.10	...
Far East	643.80	684.90	-20.00	...
North American	567.60	603.90	-6.40	...
Special Sits	673.50	716.50	-3.10	...
Technology	563.30	599.30	+3.40	...
Extra Income Fd	393.50	419.00	+1.40	...
Gilt Fund	478.60	509.20	-0.40	...
European	154.40	164.30	-1.70	...
Adventurous Mg	232.80	245.10	-3.50	...
Secure Mgd	148.80	158.40	-0.80	...
Equity Inc Dist	123.50	131.40	-0.20	3.39
North American	116.80	124.30	-0.60	3.86

SCOTTISH WIDOWS
PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU
031 655 6000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Inv Pol 1	979.90	979.90	-2.10	...
Inv Pol 2	892.10	939.10	-2.30	...
Inv Pol 3	855.60	900.80	-2.50	...
Inv Cash	306.30	322.50	+0.10	...
Mixed Fund	463.30	487.90	-0.70	...
Equity Fund	545.60	574.40	...	...
Property Fund	226.00	238.00	+1.20	...
International Fd	510.00	537.00	-3.90	...
Fixed Interest Fd	379.70	399.80	-4.20	...
Indexed Stock Fd	198.10	208.70	-0.20	...
Cash Fund	222.70	234.50	+0.10	...

SKANDIA LIFE
Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX
0703 334411

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Acc	380.60	400.60	-6.20	...
Equity Acc	446.90	470.40	-6.70	...
International Acc	357.70	376.50	-7.30	...
Property	228.30	240.30	+0.30	...
Royal Trust Mg	246.30	259.20	-2.60	...

STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO
3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ
031 225 2552

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Cash	262.80	276.70	+0.20	...
Equity	1016.1	1069.6	-0.70	...
European	169.70	178.70	-3.20	...
Far East	179.50	189.00	-2.40	...
Fixed Interest	401.90	423.10	-2.20	...
Index Linked	209.00	220.00	+0.10	...
International	631.40	664.70	-9.20	...
Managed	712.90	750.50	-3.40	...
Nth American	145.70	153.40	-1.30	...
Property	340.30	358.30	-2.30	...
Pensions				
Cash	406.30	427.70	+0.30	...
Equity	1465.2	1542.4	-5.70	...
European	203.00	213.70	-4.90	...
Far East	144.40	152.10	-2.40	...
Fixed Interest	544.40	573.10	-2.60	...
Index Linked	288.80	304.10	+0.10	...
International	891.00	938.00	-15.90	...
Managed	1001.2	1053.9	-6.80	...
Nth American	182.50	192.20	-1.70	...
Property	447.60	471.20	+4.00	...
Stock Exchange	226.70	238.70	-1.70	...

SUN ALLIANCE
St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex
0403 232323

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	672.30	707.70	-3.80	...
Equity Fund	881.70	928.20	-5.00	...
Fixed Interest Fd	421.70	443.90	-1.70	...
Index-Linked Fd	314.60	331.20	-1.70	...
Property Fund	505.10	531.70	+7.50	...
International Fd	654.20	688.70	-8.40	...
N American Fd	351.40	364.70	-0.80	...
Far East Fund	237.20	249.70	-9.30	...
Deposit Fund	289.20	304.50	+0.30	...
International Bd	£91.08	...	-1.31	...
Worldwide Bond	158.60	167.20	-2.10	...
Worldwide Fincl	80.20	84.50	...	...
Worldwide Tech	95.50	100.60	+0.10	...
European	166.80	175.60	-2.30	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	663.90	698.90	-15.10	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	464.60	497.10	...	...
Property Growth				
Property Fund	£980.00	...	+8.40	...
-do- Acc	£542.60	...	+7.80	...
Agricultural Fd	£798.30	...	+0.60	...
-do- Acc	£704.80	...	+0.60	...
Abbey Nat Fd	£430.60	...	+3.30	...
Abbey Nat Acc	£457.00	...	+1.80	...
Investment Fd	£356.30	...	-1.90	...
Investment (A)	£342.50	...	-1.80	...
Equity	£1277.5	...	-6.90	...
Equity Acc	£1225.8	...	-97.70	...
Money Fund	£458.40	...	+0.70	...
-do- Acc	£440.00	...	+0.30	...
Actuarial Fd	£589.70	...	-3.70	...
Gilt-Edged Fd	£394.00	...	-1.50	...
-do- Acc	£594.00	...	-1.50	...
Retire Annuity	£1177.8	...	+17.90	...
Immed Annuity	£315.50	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life	£220.70	...	+0.10	...

SUN LIFE OF CANADA
Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ
Dealing: 0256 841414

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Growth Account	£1478.4	...	-34.90	...
Managed Acc	£835.40	...	-20.80	...
Equity Account	£1181.2	...	-35.10	...
Mngd Fund Acc	385.90	406.30	-10.10	...
Equity Fund Acc	518.50	545.80	-16.20	...
Prop Fund Acc	241.90	254.60	+0.20	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	317.30	334.00	-14.40	...
Money Fund Acc	216.40	227.80	+0.10	...
Indx-Lnk Scs Ac	206.90	217.80	-7.80	...
Pers Pens Acct	£1919.8	...	-11.20	...
Pens Mngd Acct	892.50	939.50	-5.50	...
Pens Guarantee	236.10	248.50	+0.40	...
Pens Equity	340.80	358.70	-3.30	...
Pens Property	272.60	286.90	+0.50	...
Pens Fixed Int	294.60	310.10	-3.30	...
Pens Intl	255.50	269.00	+1.50	...
Pens Money	229.50	241.60	+0.10	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	197.60	208.00	-2.90	...

SUN LIFE UNIT
St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL
0272 426911

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Acc	919.80	968.30	-3.50	...
Property Acc	342.50	360.60	+4.00	...
Equity Acc	1486.0	1564.3	-0.90	...
Fixed Int Acc	398.00	419.00	-1.80	...
Index-Linked Acc	203.50	214.30	-0.40	...
Cash Acc	302.50	318.50	+0.20	...
Amer Equity Acc	366.20	385.50	-4.00	...
Japan Acc	327.20	344.50	-1.10	...
Pacific Acc	369.30	388.80	-19.70	...
Far Eastern Acc	876.80	923.00	-31.50	...
International Acc	606.80	638.80	-13.20	...
Distribution Fund	295.20	310.80	-0.70	5.63
European	195.40	205.70	-1.00	...

TSB LIFE LTD
Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE
0264 345678

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	284.70	299.70	-1.10	...
Property Fund	211.20	222.50	...	...
Fixed Interest Fd	225.80	237.80	-0.50	...
Money Fund	195.70	206.10	+0.10	...
Equity Fund	379.60	399.70	-1.70	...

TARGET LIFE
The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296 394000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Deposit	244.20	257.10	+0.10	...
Financial Ser 1	49.40	53.10	-1.10	...
Fixed Interest	326.10	343.40	-0.80	...
Gold	90.50	95.40	-0.40	...
Managed	632.10	665.50	-14.30	...
Mngd Growth	199.30	209.90	-12.50	...
Mngd Opp	210.80	222.00	-14.20	...
Property	298.80	314.60	+4.70	...
Residential Prop	95.40	100.50	...	...
TSB American	208.10	219.10	-3.40	...
TSB Brit Gwth	838.60	882.90	-6.70	...
TSB European	280.80	295.70	-3.40	...
TSB Income	414.10	436.00	-2.30	...
TSB Intl	433.90	456.90	-6.30	...
TSB Intl Inc	289.80	305.20	-4.70	...
TSB Pacific	443.20	466.60	-15.30	...
TSB Prem Inc	266.10	278.10	-2.40	...

WINDSOR LIFE
Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire
0952 292929

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Bond	712.80	751.10	-4.80	...
Money Fund	310.20	326.50	+0.20	...
Equity Fund	656.90	692.20	-6.20	...
Fixed Interest	282.00	297.20	-3.30	...
Property Fund	351.40	369.90	-3.10	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Gnrl	599.90	632.10	-4.60	...
Income	763.20	804.20	-5.10	...
International Gth	661.00	696.50	-9.60	...
Capital Fund	662.60	698.20	-3.90	...
Recovery Fund	680.90	717.50	-6.80	...
Japan & General	296.60	312.50	-3.80	...

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Postcode
Tel Date of Birth

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INTEREST RATES ROUNDUP

	Nominal rate	Compounded at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c:						
Typical	0.38	0.38	0.30	1,000	7 day	——
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	3.14	3.14	2.61	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-626 1567
"	3.04	3.04	2.43	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-626 1567
Lloyds	2.57	2.57	2.05	10,000-no max	1 mth	Local Bmch
"	2.85	2.85	2.28	10,000-no max	6 mth	Local Bmch
Midland	3.14	3.14	2.51	10,000-100,000	1 mth	0742 528655
" "	3.23	3.23	2.58	10,000-100,000	3 mth	0742 528655
NatWest	3.28	3.28	2.62	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-726 1000
" "	3.18	3.18	2.54	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland MMC	2.88	2.99	2.34	2,500‡	none	031-442 77 7
Barclays Prime a/c	1.70	1.70	1.35	2,500‡	none	0604 252891
Co-operative Ultra	0.19	0.19	0.15	500‡	none	071 828 9543
Citibank	3.56	3.62	2.90	2,000‡	none	0800 555894
Lloyds HICA	0.38	0.38	0.30	500‡	none	0272 433372
Midland HICA	1.12	1.12	0.90	2,000‡	none	0742 528655
Abbey National HICA	1.19	1.19	0.93	1,000‡	none	Local Branch
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	1.13	1.13	0.90	2,000‡	none	031-556 8555
TSB Bank Inter Cheque Acct	1.50	1.50	1.20	2,000‡	none	071-600 6020
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share A/c	0.75	0.75	0.60	50+	none	——
Best buy — largest socs:						
B						
Britannia	4.61	4.61	3.69	2,000 min	Postal	——
Birmingham Mid	4.76	4.76	3.81	10,000 min	Postal	——
Bradford & Bingley	5.33	5.33	4.26	25,000 min	90 day	——
Asset (Bristol&West)	5.36	5.36	4.29	25,000 min	90 day	——
Alliance & Leics	5.48	5.48	4.38	50,000 min	1 year	——
Best buy — all socs:						
Skipton	4.86	4.86	3.89	2,000 min	Postal	——
Northern Rock	5.14	5.14	4.11	10,000 min	90 day	——
North of England	5.25	5.25	4.20	25,000 min	90 day	——
The Scarborough	5.51	5.51	4.41	25,000 min	90 day	——
Nottingham Imp	5.63	5.63	4.50	40,000 min	1 year	——

Compiled by Chase de Vere Moneyline - call 071 404 5766 for further details

NATIONAL SAVINGS						
Ordinary A/c*	3.25	2.44	1.95	500-10,000	8 day	041-649-4555
Investment A/c*	5.25	3.94	3.15	20-4,99	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond*	6.80	4.80	3.80	2,000-24,999	3 mth	0253 768151
7th Index Linkd*	3.00	3.00	3.00	100-10,000	8 day	091-386 4900
47th Issue Cert*	5.40	5.40	5.40	100-10,000	8 day	091-386 4900
Yearly Plan†	5.40	5.40	5.40	20-400/mth	14 day	091-386 4900
Children's Bond	7.35	7.35	7.35	25-1,000		
Gen Ext Rate†	3.51	3.51	3.51			
Capital Bond*	7.25	5.44	4.35	100-250,000	8 days	041-649-4555
1st Option Bond*	4.50	4.50	3.60	1,000-250,000		

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS						
Consolidated Lf	4.30	4.30	3.66	2,000 min	1 yrs	Figures from
Consolidated Lf	4.75	4.75	4.04	2,000 min	2 yrs	Chase de
General Portfolio	5.20	5.20	4.42	50,000 min	3 yrs	Vere
General Portfolio	5.70	5.70	4.85	50,000 min	4 yrs	071 404 5766
General Portfolio	5.80	5.80	4.93	50,000 min	5 yrs	for details

RATES		**HOLIDAY RATES**	£ buys
RPI (Jan 93-94)	+2.5%	Spanish Pesetas:	202.50
Bank Base Rate	5.25%	French Francs:	8.44
Personal Loan	25%	Greek Drachma:	388.00
Credit Card	25 - 27%	Italian Lire:	2455.00

TESSA	CAR (%)	£3,000 val 1 year on	Transfer penalty	Minimum investment	Telephone number
Hinkley & Rug.	7.60	£3,228.00	90 day loss	£3,000	0455 251284
Dunfermline	7.55	£3,226.50	1mths noticelloss	£3,000	0383 721621
Progressive	7.50	£3,225.00	£25+1mths notice	£1	0252 244926
Ipswich	7.40	£3,222.00	—	£100	0473 211021
Asset (B & W)	7.25	£3,217.50	—	£3,000	0800 303330

† 2.5% for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less. * Additional holdings up to £20,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates. †Tax free. ‡Interest taxable paid gross 3%higher rates for larger sums. * Guaranteed over the rate of inflation. * 0.3% est bonus for amounts £20,000+

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WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Ease public concern over the handling of fraud trials by making greater use of existing disciplinary tribunals

From His Honour Peter Mason QC

Sir, The Securities and Investments Board, in its recent discussion paper (*The Times*, February 16), promises a closer interface between regulators and prosecuting authorities. This is to be welcomed.

Public disquiet at the handling of fraud trials would be allayed if the line between fraud and City malpractice were to be drawn in such a way as to decrease the workload of criminal courts and increase that of disciplinary tribunals set up under the Financial Services Act 1986. Every self-regulating organisation has its own disciplinary framework. That of the Securities and Futures Authority, for example, consists of a number of tribunals staffed by practitioners and chaired by experienced lawyers, of whom I am one.

It has teeth sharp enough to bite not only individuals, but also City firms. Fines over the years (including settled cases) total over £2 million. Forty individuals and six firms have been found unfit to continue in business.

The work is done at speed. The longest case lasted nine days, the shortest just under 1½ hours. The costs are correspondingly low (and far below the £2,500 per hour approximate cost of the average Crown Court). Tribunals sit in private, although decisions are published. There is a strong argument for public hearings if the workload of the system is to be increased.

Tribunals have, of course, no power to deprive anyone of liberty. Swingeing financial penalties, expulsion from the City, and public obloquy are no substitute for imprisonment, but they often come pretty close to it. They should be used more often.

Yours faithfully,
PETER MASON,
11 King's Bench Walk,
Temple, EC4.


Mason: tribunals work

Letters to the Business section of The Times can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112

Why personal pension plans are unsuitable for public sector workers

From Mr Richard Dale

Sir, Personal pension plans being completely portable, are the ideal solution for those who change their jobs regularly, or are likely to. They are obviously not suitable for public sector workers who would remain employed by the State throughout their working lives.

The main problem regarding the introduction of PPPs is the refusal of employers to contribute into them.

Two employers of mine have refused to pay into my PPP and I have been forced to join their pension schemes to gain benefit from their contribution.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD DALE
Spring Cottage,
64 Friday Street,
Warnham,
West Sussex.

Banks' safe-custody fees fail to add up in the light of experience

From Mr Terence J. Holloway

Sir, Re: "Safe Custody Turns To Lost Property" (Weekend Money Letters, February 26). When my bank increased the safe-custody fees on share-certificates they had held for some years I asked for the documents to be forwarded to me. As the bank did not reply I telephoned and was informed that some of the certificates were missing. Could I please tell them what they should be holding? Clearly I had been charged not only for certificates they did not have but also had had the levy raised on those certificates.

It took quite a bit of negotiation before I obtained a refund on the charges I had paid and was given a "goodwill" payment.

Yours faithfully,
TERENCE J. HOLLOWAY,
24 Greystones Road,
Bearsted,
Kent.

From Mr Peter Clarke

Sir, Lady Stewartby is getting off lightly if my recent experience is anything to go by.

My bank never told me that it was going to charge me £15 for the custody of a share certificate it holds. As a result my account became briefly overdrawn, generating a stern letter from the bank and a further deduction of £15.

The bank had sold the shares for me in the 1970s and the company itself went bust in 1985.

Yours faithfully,
PETER CLARKE,
Box 151,
2 Old Brompton Road,
SW7.

CGT ALLOWANCES FOR JANUARY

The indexed rise for calculating the indexation allowance on assets disposed of in January 1994.

Month purchased	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
January	——	0.710	0.627	0.549	0.468	0.413
February	——	0.703	0.620	0.537	0.463	0.407
March	0.779	0.700	0.615	0.523	0.461	0.405
April	0.744	0.676	0.594	0.491	0.447	0.388
May	0.731	0.669	0.588	0.484	0.444	0.387
June	0.726	0.665	0.584	0.481	0.445	0.387
July	0.726	0.657	0.586	0.484	0.449	0.388
August	0.725	0.649	0.571	0.480	0.444	0.384
September	0.726	0.642	0.568	0.481	0.437	0.380
October	0.718	0.636	0.558	0.478	0.435	0.373
November	0.709	0.630	0.554	0.473	0.423	0.367
December	0.713	0.626	0.555	0.471	0.418	0.368
	1988	**1989**	**1990**	**1991**	**1992**	**1993**
January	0.368	0.273	0.182	0.085	0.042	0.025
February	0.363	0.264	0.176	0.079	0.037	0.018
March	0.357	0.258	0.164	0.075	0.034	0.014
April	0.336	0.236	0.129	0.062	0.018	0.005
May	0.331	0.229	0.120	0.058	0.014	0.001
June	0.326	0.224	0.115	0.054	0.014	0.002
July	0.324	0.223	0.114	0.056	0.018	0.004
August	0.310	0.220	0.103	0.054	0.017	Nil
September	0.304	0.212	0.093	0.050	0.014	Nil
October	0.290	0.203	0.084	0.046	0.010	Nil
November	0.285	0.192	0.087	0.042	0.011	Nil
December	0.281	0.189	0.088	0.041	0.015	Nil

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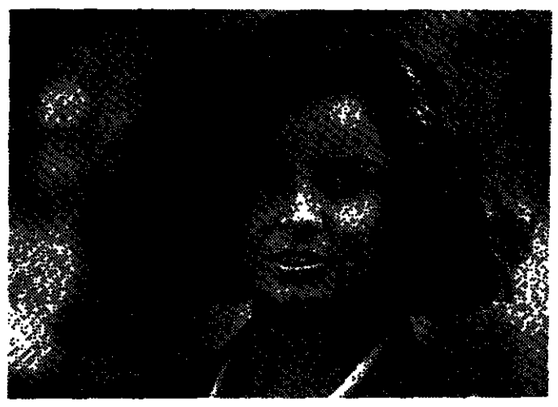
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TT 05/03/94

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Other amount £ _____ (min £20)
3. I would like to retire when I am:
☐ 50 ☐ 55 ☐ 60 ☐ 65 ☐ 70 ☐ 75
Other (50-75) _____
4. My current earnings are £_____ p.a.

Occasionally we will tell you about products and services from other companies which we think might interest you. If you would prefer not to receive this information, please tick this box. ☐

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
St Helens, 1 Undercliffe, Bradford BD1 4BE
0345 697 788

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Growth Acc	167.50	176.30	- 2.90	...
Growth Equity	243.00	257.20	- 1.80	1.41
Growth Euro	197.10	207.50	- 4.60	...
Growth Exempt Bal	119.20	123.60	...	0.99
Growth Gilt	78.65	81.08	- 0.20	4.27
Growth Japan	186.10	195.90	- 0.80	...

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
Equity & Law Hse, Corpn St, Coventry
0203 553 231

General Acc	526.60	570.90	+ 1.00	2.18
General Inc	483.40	514.30	+ 0.90	2.18
UK Growth Acc	363.40	386.70	+ 1.00	2.40
UK Growth Inc	254.90	270.80	+ 0.80	2.40
Higher Inc Acc	676.20	719.40	+ 1.20	3.35
Higher Inc Inc	404.30	430.20	+230.50	3.35
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	188.30	198.70	...	5.77
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.00	99.98	- 2.92	5.77
Nth America	256.90	273.30	- 3.20	...
Far East	363.00	386.20	-13.60	...
Europe	268.10	285.30	- 4.30	0.61
Brit Excell	72.30	76.92	- 0.68	2.49
Brit Fndmtls Acc	101.80	108.30	- 1.30	4.16
Brit Fndmtls Inc	77.29	82.23	+ 1.08	4.16
Global Opps	86.07	91.57	- 0.99	...
Balanced Acc	54.86	58.37I	- 0.38	2.30
Balanced Inc	54.37	57.85I	- 0.38	2.30

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth 0345 717 373

High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	134.50	142.70I	- 1.90	5.61
High Inc Equity	172.90	183.80	- 0.60	3.96
Worldwide Bond	271.30	287.70I	- 2.10	3.65
Capital Growth				
American Growth	304.90	326.10	- 4.10	.36
Asian Pacific	364.40	390.00	-16.30	...
Assets & Earnings	376.80	394.50	- 2.20	1.61
Curncdty & Energy	127.00	135.10I	- 0.40	.41
1992 Enterprise	101.90	108.40	- 0.60	1.53
Euro Capital Inc	129.00	138.00	- 2.30	.70
General	234.20	249.10I	- 1.80	2.18
Japan	130.20	142.50	- 0.70	...
Mastertrust	146.20	156.40	- 1.70	.64
UK Growth Dist	148.00	157.60	- 0.90	1.53
US Emerging Cos	145.00	154.30	- 0.20	...
Income & Growth	398.90	424.40	- 0.30	3.09
Ethical	77.09	82.01	- 0.34	1.95
International	119.10	126.70	- 2.50	.09

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
14 Melville St, Edinburgh EH3 7NS
031 220 0733

UK Small Cos	1828.0	1903.0	-31.00	...

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ
0800 833 588

Aberdeen Portfolio	62.81	63.83	- 1.65	0.77
Amer Inc & Growth	45.65	48.14	- 0.33	0.64
Cash	50.03	52.68	- 0.01	4.50
European	106.00	112.40I	- 1.80	...
European Income	99.70	106.00I	- 2.30	1.40
Exempt	1076.8	1134.5	-12.60	3.34
Extra Income	53.88	58.85I	- 0.55	4.43
Far East Emg Eqn	115.30	124.40	- 5.70	0.51
Fixed Interest	26.03	27.79	- 0.77	6.61
Fund Inv Tst	183.00	195.30	- 1.40	0.86
Japan	205.10	218.30	- 5.00	...
Latin American	77.30	82.35	- 3.20	0.58
Pacific	74.34	79.61	- 3.48	0.33
Property Share	77.62	82.86	- 0.12	1.57
UK Emerging Cos	70.86	75.75	- 1.01	1.83
UK Growth	45.98	49.58	- 0.19	2.36
World Growth	78.45	81.80	- 2.90	0.66

ACUMA FUND MANAGERS LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex 0277 699 336

UK Equity Income	96.85	101.03I	- 0.07	2.83
UK Equity Growth	87.75	93.39I	- 0.63	2.01
European	67.13	71.41	- 1.22	0.63
Nth American	67.48	71.79	- 0.70	0.98
Far Eastern	74.40	79.15	- 1.16	0.32
Money	65.47	65.47	+ 0.04	3.77

AEGON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
25 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF
031 549 3222

British Growth	73.10	77.76	- 0.01	2.29
British Income	82.15	87.40	- 0.24	3.18
Select Portfolio	89.23	94.93	- 1.73	...

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
101 King's Road Brentwood CM14 4DR
0452 305 958

Amity Income	79.06	83.88	- 0.73	1.95
Income Builder Inc	70.26	74.74	- 0.30	2.72

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL
1FA dlg: 0793 610 366 Client dlg: 0793 514 514

Balanced Trust				
Growth & Income	247.20	264.20	- 1.70	2.86
Capital	440.70	471.10	- 0.60	1.49
Balanced	720.80	770.50	- 2.60	2.36
Accumulator	1282.0	1370.0	- 1.00	2.70
Income Trusts				
American Income	49.35	52.75I	- 0.03	3.24
High Income	428.00	457.50I	- 7.40	3.29
Equity Income	342.30	366.00I	- 1.40	3.37
High Yield	265.90	284.20	- 1.80	3.30
Govt Securities	34.74	36.66	- 0.01	4.42
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	136.40	145.80	- 0.20	0.21
European Growth	34.14	36.52	- 0.71	0.44
International	166.10	177.70I	- 2.80	0.22
Japan	228.30	243.40I	- 3.80	0.01
Pacific	435.20	465.20	-10.10	0.17
Secs of America	433.40	460.90I	- 1.10	0.60
Wwide Asset Val	49.17	52.52	- 0.71	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	546.40	584.10	- 1.60	2.14
Conv & Gilt	49.25	52.64I	- 0.75	3.84
Smaller Cos	188.80	201.30I	-	0.80
2nd Smaller Cos	179.90	192.30I	- 0.90	0.93
Recovery	151.40	161.80	- 0.70	1.72
Mrt Min & Cmty	158.40	169.30	- 0.20	0.80
Overs Earnings	369.30	394.70I	+ 0.20	1.78

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
Manor Royal, Crawley RH10 2QP 0293 526 911

Cntrnst Oui Pens	103.30	107.30	- 2.30	1.45
Foundtn Pensn Pens	65.94	68.50	- 1.15	4.00

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
28 St John's Sq, London EC1M 4AE
071 251 6767

Capital	73.83	78.54	+ 0.20	2.59
International	63.64	67.70	- 1.77	0.50

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
1 Rutland Court, Edinburgh EH3 8EY
031 222 4242

America	317.70	337.10	+ 0.50	...
Bond	121.30	127.60	- 0.60	6.13
Brit Smlr Cos	107.20	114.00	- 0.30	0.90
Conv & Gen	66.43	70.90I	- 0.89	4.91
Energy	450.20	488.30	- 3.50	0.22
Europe	253.40	268.20	- 3.40	0.66
Euro Smlr Cos	410.60	435.40	- 2.30	0.56
Income Growth	368.80	393.60I	- 5.20	3.87
Japan	344.30	366.30	- 4.50	...
Pacific	112.60	119.80	- 3.70	0.67
UK Smlr Cos	54.66	58.14	- 0.04	0.75

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
36 Queen St, London EC4R 1BN 071 489 8673

Brit & Overs	292.50	307.90	- 8.30	1.18
Capital Growth	119.00	125.30	+ 0.60	2.13
Wwide Opps	192.20	202.30	- 3.70	0.45

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
11 Broadway, Stratford E15 4BJ 081 534 5544

Balanced Trusts				
Brit Inv Fd Inc	358.20	373.10	- 3.60	2.26
European Bd Inc	95.20	99.07I	- 1.53	7.27
Exempt	77.80	83.12	- 0.28	3.72
Financial	24.22	25.89	- 1.79	2.03
500.00	488.40	522.40I	- 2.40	1.06
General	282.00	301.60	- 2.00	2.17
Property	250.20	267.60	- 1.20	5.44
Trustee	191.30	204.80	- 2.30	1.82
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.60	100.60	...	4.26
Extra Income	123.40	132.00	- 0.90	3.74
Gilt & Fxd Int	14.16	15.15	- 0.25	7.82
Income	957.30	996.80I	- 3.40	3.66
Income Builder	65.22	71.51I	- 0.44	4.41
Intl Income	68.80	73.19	- 1.42	2.89
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	118.50	126.40I	- 1.20	2.14
Leisure	126.30	135.10	- 0.10	0.78
Recovery	437.00	467.40	+ 0.60	2.01
Smlr Cos Inc	45.97	49.30	- 0.14	1.70
Special Sits	299.50	316.00	- 2.10	1.43
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	135.30	143.50	- 2.30	0.14
Aust Asia	264.60	280.60	- 8.20	1.56
Aust Inc	165.20	175.30	- 4.80	1.99
Euro Gwth Inc	142.80	151.30	- 1.90	0.77
Japan & Gen Inc	194.30	205.70I	- 3.70	...
Japan Spec Sits	85.84	90.97	- 2.02	...

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 158, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ
081 658 6000

American Growth	101.70	107.70	- 1.00	...
Amer Smlr Cos	135.40	144.90	+ 0.40	...
Cash Trust	50.63	50.63	+ 0.02	4.90
Convertibles	63.47	67.38	- 0.35	5.60
Eastern	287.30	311.90	-13.10	1.60
Equity Income	94.20	100.30I	- 0.10	4.80
European Growth	289.50	307.80	- 6.60	1.50
Europe	215.40	229.70	- 5.00	1.50
German Growth	69.44	73.91	- 1.68	0.70
Global Bond	67.35	71.12I	- 1.08	5.30
Global Growth	132.10	140.60	- 1.50	...
Japan Growth	224.90	241.40	- 3.50	...
Japan Sunrise	183.80	204.20	- 3.40	...
Korea Trust	78.00	87.00	- 4.65	...
Portfolio	137.60	146.90I	- 1.50	3.00
UK Growth	98.35	102.50	- 0.90	2.60

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
36-34 Old Street, London EC1V 9HL
071 250 3300

Intl Gwth Port Inc	82.79	87.54I	- 0.07	...
Special Oppor Inc	86.26	90.85I	- 0.05	...

BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD
5 Giltspur St, London EC1A 9DE 071 236 6461

Special Sits	183.90	196.60	- 4.10	0.48
Dividend	84.88	90.78I	+ 0.99	3.76
Inv Gth & Inc	225.10	240.70	- 1.00	2.91
UK & Gen	46.01	49.21I	- 0.03	1.52
Fund of Funds	67.85	72.57	- 2.06	...

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
50 Rothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6HR
041 223 0623

Balanced Growth	111.11	117.58	- 1.27	1.27
Smaller Cos	110.58	117.02	- 0.62	0.97
Higher Yield	40.91	49.64	- 0.43	2.42
American Gth Inc	76.48	80.93I	- 0.72	...
European Growth	134.57	142.41I	- 0.92	...
Global Bond Inc	28.87	31.61	- 0.06	5.00
Mngd Ptflio Inc	45.03	47.65	- 0.60	0.94

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL
071 480 7236

Short Dated Gilt	65.83	66.73I	- 3.06	5.56

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH
061 837 9060

Environ	157.20	167.30	- 1.20	1.34
UK Growth	169.00	180.30I	- 0.70	1.82
Us Income	139.80	148.80	+ 0.10	3.83

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
High St, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA
0707 651 122

Cdn Gen Dist	190.90	202.40I	....	1.79
do Income Dist	114.70	121.60	- 0.30	4.39
Gilt & Fxd Int	42.38	44.92I	- 0.26	6.05

For Cannon see Lincoln National

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
35 Finsbury Square, Manchester M2 2AF
061 236 5685 Exmp 061 236 5685 Dlg: 061 236 5362

American & Gen	149.60	159.20	- 1.40	...
European Inc	78.41	83.10	- 1.23	0.35
Smaller Cos (4-1)	86.19	91.70I	- 1.38	1.13
Growth	441.70	472.50I	- 3.80	1.95
Income & Growth	423.60	450.60I	- 0.30	3.45
Japan & Gen	77.56	82.52I	- 0.36	...
Master Portfolio	110.44	112.90	-73.00	1.32

CAPITAL HOUSE UNIT TST MGRS
Capital House, Festival Square, Edinburgh
031 228 6477 Dealing: 0800 333 564

American Gwth Tst	37.98	40.62	- 0.72	0.21
Cash Income	89.55	89.55	- 0.08	4.70
European Gwth	38.76	41.34	- 0.76	0.36
Income & Gwth Inc	29.35	31.38	- 0.08	3.94
Intnl Gwth	31.86	34.18	- 0.54	0.54
Japan Gwth	28.70	30.69	- 0.16	...
Managed Tst Inc	49.76	53.19	- 0.54	1.51
Oriental Opps Inc	144.50	154.50	- 4.70	...
Property Shares	48.45	51.81	+ 0.36	1.57
Smaller Cos	34.12	36.49	+ 0.61	1.45
UK Growth Tst	26.71	28.56	- 0.11	2.64
Formerly Brown Shipley				
European Inc	28.75	27.54	- 0.25	0.39
European Acc	26.71	28.56	- 0.26	0.39
Financial	153.30	163.90I	- 4.30	1.70
Foundation	96.12	102.80	- 0.40	2.14
German	49.12	52.53	- 0.72	0.07
High Income	78.94	84.42I	- 1.26	5.22
Income	140.40	150.10	+ 1.00	3.33
Intl Growth	38.68	41.36	- 0.40	0.16
Mngd Ptflio Inc	108.90	116.40I	+ 1.30	1.59
Mngd Ptflio Acc	208.10	222.50I	+ 2.40	1.59
Monthly Income	87.61	93.70	- 0.50	3.10
North American	107.70	115.10	- 1.30	...
Orient	153.10	163.70	- 3.70	...

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
3 Cornhill Avenue, London EC2R 7BH
071 606 6708

Cazenove Portfolio	83.01	88.68	- 0.60	2.16
American Portfolio	90.24	96.39	- 0.56	1.20
European Portfolio	95.75	102.36	- 0.96	0.93
Japanese Portfolio	73.27	77.80	- 0.31	...
Pacific Portfolio	144.41	155.29	- 3.24	0.72
UK Inc & Growth	76.24	81.59	- 0.23	3.60
Utility & Bond	57.07	57.77	- 0.18	6.16

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
5 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7BA 071 332 5000

UK General Tst	65.64	69.82	- 0.29	2.87
Global Tst	....	....	....	....
Recovery Tst	....	....	....	....

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
151 Farringdon Rd, London EC1R 3AD
071 837 7867

Intl Growth	148.65	161.10	- 0.85	...
UK Growth	113.72	123.16	- 0.50	...
UK Income	117.60	127.36	- 0.72	3.68

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5966

Beckman Intl	85.82	90.65	- 3.96	1.84
Beck Bio-Tech	36.96	39.32	- 1.57	...
Acorn Ethical Tst	169.15	178.05	- 6.04	1.19
City Fin Fd Inc	74.97	78.92	- 1.58	1.55
City Fin America	93.58	81.77	- 1.10	...
City Fin Intl	81.49	85.78	- 2.98	0.47
City Fin Japan	163.29	192.04	+ 5.61	...
Triple Inc Cap	293.95	307.85I	- 5.05	3.17
Friars Hse Inc	209.05	226.37	+ 0.64	6.72
Buckley Wrld Gth	143.87	153.08I	- 2.42	0.65
Fairmnt Cap Gth	148.26	156.06	- 3.56	...
do-Inc & Gth	119.36	125.54	- 2.83	1.58

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
10 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1AJ 0992 412 144
Emerging Markets 58.12 61.67 - 2.69 ...

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0800 373 393

American Gwth	59.84	64.00	- 0.68	...
Atlas Mngd Gwth	38.46	41.36	- 0.62	0.01
Dragon Growth	71.36	76.32	- 1.40	0.42
Equity High Inc	85.18	90.62I	- 1.06	3.43
European Gwth	48.87	51.99	- 1.04	0.74
Evergreen	31.34	33.52	- 0.59	...
General Equity	87.47	92.81	- 0.06	2.12
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	36.38	37.72	- 0.16	7.50
Japan Growth	53.73	58.02	+ 0.21	...
Pedigree Gwth	52.93	55.67	- 0.23	2.00
Ptd Sm Cos Inc	34.36	36.59	+ 0.21	0.57
Retirement Inc	26.97	29.00	- 0.26	5.07

COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY
0634 898 000

Capital	65.92	70.50I	+ 0.13	2.72
Income	61.80	66.10I	+ 0.23	3.77

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD
Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ 081 686 9818
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)

Income Funds				
Equity Inc	172.32	183.32	- 1.12	4.82
Fixed & Convertible	45.42	48.32	- 0.91	5.28
Monthly Inc Plus	52.94	56.32	- 0.44	7.96
Preference Share	51.23	54.50	- 1.64	6.78
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	135.88	144.53	- 0.90	6.59
Managed Fund	69.52	73.96	- 0.51	2.73
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	45.07	47.95	- 0.24	1.77
UK & General	80.84	86.00	+ 1.04	2.52
UK Growth	140.46	149.43	- 0.34	1.60
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	187.48	199.45	- 1.85	...
Far Eastern Gth	140.15	149.10	- 6.14	0.28
Global Bond	85.30	90.64	- 2.01	5.87
Japan Growth	132.63	141.10	- 0.14	...
North Amer Gwth	161.07	171.35	- 1.29	...
Oriental Growth	82.73	88.01	- 4.66	...
Worldwide Growth	66.42	70.66	- 0.86	0.24

CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD
Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN
0438 744 848

Growth Inc	59.62	63.42	+ 0.17	2.50
High Income	34.98	37.18	+ 0.04	4.50
Japan	38.47	40.92	- 0.06	...
Smaller Cos Inc	33.85	36.01	- 0.06	2.20
Smaller Cos	35.24	37.48	- 0.06	2.20
North American	32.66	34.74	- 0.65	0.50
European	37.06	39.42	- 0.55	0.50

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
1 White Hart Yd, London Bridge SE1 1NX
071 407 5966

Consistent UT	32.07	34.36I	- 0.38	4.31

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
1 King St, Manchester M60 3AH 0800 526 398

Growth	152.70	162.50	- 1.00	1.57
Income	76.41	81.29	- 0.15	4.21
European	60.41	64.27	- 1.44	0.70
Recovery	145.00	154.30	+ 1.40	1.23

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
78-80 Cornhill, London EC3V 3NG 071 283 9494

Equity Dist	844.60	899.40	-15.80	3.59

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
0277 890 370

Fellowship Tst	74.54	79.30	- 0.02	1.79
Income	245.90	261.60	- 0.10	4.30
Smaller Cos	159.70	169.90	- 0.30	1.20
Inv Portfolio	79.35	84.41I	- 0.33	1.74
High Income Port	69.49	73.92	- 0.26	4.40

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XS
071 496 6177

Euro Small Cos	1504.9	1598.4	-39.70	...
Japan Small Cos	1529.3	1522.7	+18.50	...
UK Small Cos	1899.2	1980.8	-26.80	...
US Small Cos	1655.9	1701.0	-42.60	...

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
66 Wilson Street, London EC2A 2BL
071 377 0889

Disc Inc	203.00	213.70	....	2.69

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
25, Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh 031 315 2900

European Gwth	255.70	270.30	- 5.20	1.11
New Asia	223.20	241.20	-12.10	0.33
Japan Growth	132.70	141.20	- 1.70	...
Jap Smlr Co	343.90	389.30	- 1.40	...
Nth Amer	231.00	246.10	- 2.90	0.92
Shield Asia Pac Inv	125.00	132.60	- 6.00	0.47
UK Inc & Gth	221.70	236.30	- 1.50	3.43

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 577 955

UK Balanced Inc	144.90	154.10	- 1.50	1.74
UK High Inc Inc	159.80	170.00	- 1.70	4.69
US Prtf & Fl Inc	61.27	64.97	- 0.07	4.83
Envrnmntl Opps	84.67	90.07	- 0.81	1.36

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh
0345 090 529

American	123.10	130.80	- 0.10	0.15
Convertibles	24.56	26.10	- 0.58	6.32
Equity Income	135.90	144.40	- 1.30	3.46
EuroFund	64.67	67.24	- 0.98	0.85
Financial	50.23	53.37	- 1.51	1.50
Growth & Inc	242.60	257.80I	- 0.50	2.91
High Dist	168.40	178.90	- 1.20	4.19
International	397.80	422.70	- 9.20	0.24
Intl Income	97.58	104.20	- 1.70	2.50
Latin American	50.45	53.60	- 1.64	0.23
Pacific	88.15	91.51	- 4.51	...
Tokyo	241.20	256.10	- 6.40	...
UK Smaller Cos	249.70	265.30	- 0.80	0.89

ELCON LTD
Central Ct, Knoll Rise, Orpington BR6 0JA
0689 70538

Elcon Trust	224.50	240.00	- 4.50	...

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU
071 373 7261

Endurance Fd	205.40	218.50	- 8.60	0.31

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7QN
0296 431 488

European	78.46	82.59	- 1.12	1.56
Far Eastern	321.11	338.01	- 8.46	1.34
High Income	129.09	136.41	- 0.32	4.13
Intl Growth	125.17	131.76	- 2.52	0.99
North American	120.46	126.80	- 0.10	1.00
Pelican	120.82	128.52	- 0.11	2.69
Smaller Cos	79.44	83.62	- 0.48	1.67
Special Sits	96.90	102.00	- 0.20	2.25
Tst of Inv Trus	192.43	202.56I	- 1.35	1.77

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5966

Smaller Cos Inc	224.03	233.36	- 2.39	1.54
Smaller Cos Acc	387.83	403.99	- 4.14	1.54
Recovery	59.86	62.15	- 0.62	1.43

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
23 Cathedral Yard, Exeter EX1 1HB
0392 422 144

Balanced	112.53	119.64	+ 0.43	4.80
Capital Growth	81.92	87.86	- 1.67	...
Fd of Inv Tsts	46.49	49.50	- 0.61	0.23
High Income	47.90	51.19	- 0.17	8.65
Warrant	62.33	66.30I	- 1.01	...
Zero Preference	36.83	39.08	- 0.20	...

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
96 West Street, Brighton BN1 2RE 0273 220 707

Family Asset Tst	77.87	82.84	- 1.56	2.36
Family Income Tst	51.70	54.99	- 1.51	5.86
Family Trust	95.38	101.46	- 1.84	1.08
United Charities	262.60	279.30	- 5.60	2.90

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ
Callfree Private Clients 0800 414 181
Broker Dealings: 0800 414 181
Cash Fund

Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	....	4.50
Stabiliser Growth Range				
Commodity Risk UK	24.53	25.87I	- 0.06	2.96
do- Europe	23.78	25.10	- 0.26	4.89
do- America	23.49	24.75	- 0.28	0.34
do- Act Japan	26.91	28.63	- 0.36	0.52
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	30.28	30.64	- 0.25	7.30
Intl Bond	30.63	31.98	- 0.65	4.94
Income Funds				
High Income	28.41	29.90I	- 0.47	4.88
Income Plus	123.00	130.80I	- 2.50	3.54
Amer Eq Inc	47.94	50.87	- 0.34	0.61
European Income	44.69	47.52I	- 0.45	2.15
Far East Inc	64.99	66.98	- 1.49	2.27
Global Convertible	25.21	26.60	- 0.07	2.89
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	62.09	66.25	- 4.19	...
American	241.30	255.80	- 1.00	...
Amer Spec Sits	113.40	121.00	- 0.90	...
Japan Smaller Cos	44.24	47.19I	- 0.34	...

FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD
20 Finsbury St, Lond EC2Y 9AQ 071 844 2700

Balanced	143.60	147.10I	- 5.10	2.06
Inc Ptflio	92.37	94.08I	+ 0.07	3.45
Cap Ptflio	149.90	152.80	- 1.00	0.62
General Opps	132.70	134.80	- 3.70	3.21
Growth Inc	31.61	32.26	+ 0.10	1.17
Private Portfolio	417.80	426.60I	-16.00	1.43

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
Admin, PO Box 2000, Brentwood, Essex
CM13 1XH Enq: 071 454 1434 Dlg: 0277 261 010

Hypo Foreign & Colonial				
European	111.90	118.40	- 2.80	0.33
Japanese	191.30	205.10	- 3.40	...
Japanese Smlr Cos	22.66	24.14I	- 0.83	10.36
Gnma Income	110.60	107.70	- 1.40	2.63
Intl Growth	120.20	128.60	- 2.40	0.86
UK Income	112.40	120.60	- 0.10	4.39
US Smaller Cos	302.60

Cheap buyers in for shares

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 28. Dealings end March 11. §Contango day March 14. Settlement day March 21. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
524	345	Abbey Ntl	490	...	...	3.6	16.1
314	170	Allied Irish	283 †	+3	...	4.7	∞
278½	130	ANZ New Z	237	-½	...	3.8	18.6
3806½	2712½	Bankamerica	2818½	-43½	...	...	...
319	177	Bk of Ireland	266	+1	...	4.7	19.3
430	325	Bk Leumi UK	430 †	...	20.0	5.8	∞
267	110½	Bank Scotland	209	-1	4.6	2.8	28.4
652	362	Barclays	512	-6	...	3.1	...
37	8	Carlisle	33½	...	...	...	...
665	395	Cater Allen	570	-3	28.0	6.1	...
180	85	Cattles	152	...	...	3.7	20.2
2487½	1543½	Chase Manh	2500	...	...	...	...
2812½	1943½	Citicorp	2575	-68½	...	...	...
569	250	Close Bros	445	+7	...	3.1	16.2
£157½	9177½	Commerzbk	£132½	-59½	...	2.9	...
£349½	1250½	Deutsche Bk	£308½	+9½	...	2.0	...
95	45	First Nat Fin	82	...	...	2.3	...
1651	896	Fuji Bank Y	1459½	-1½	...	0.4	...
529	343	Gerrard Nat	418	...	21.5	6.4	11.1
1113	490	HSBC	860	+24	23.5	3.5	∞
1133	474	HSBC HK	882	+24	23.5	3.4	∞
473	243	Hambros	379	+9	14.3	4.7	17.5
443	313	Joseph (L)	433	...	16.7	4.8	...
170	98	King Shaxson	152	...	9.0	7.4	...
693	312	Kleinwort Ben	538 †	...	18.5	4.3	∞
600	402	Lloyds	579 †	+3	...	4.8	12.2
118	63	Lon Scot Bk	111 †	...	3.4	3.8	18.8
620½	322	Nat Aust Bk	554	+½	...	4.3	13.5
634	308	Nat West	482 †	-1	...	4.8	13.2
573	270	Provident	504 †	+1	16.0	4.0	∞
67	39	Rea Bros	64	...	0.5	1.1	68.0
528	207	Ryl Bk Scot	432	-2	...	3.2	19.5
1460	467½	Schroders	1113	+5	...	1.3	22.2
1437	576	Stand Chart	1115	-14	20.5	2.3	...
291	145½	TSB	249½	+6½	...	3.8	17.0
206	78	Union	176	-6	3.0	2.2	∞
1012	529	Warburg SG	824	-3	...	3.0	12.0
6843½	4963½	Wells Fargo	9212½	+6½	...	2.9	...
280	121	Westpac	225	-1	...	2.4	∞
380	186	Wintrust	368 †	...	...	3.3	32.9

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
697	517	Allied-Lyons	627	+5	...	4.3	17.4
647	441	Bass	533	...	...	4.6	14.2
299	189	Boddington	284	+4	...	3.6	14.2
459	362	Bulmer (HP)	454	-1	...	2.9	18.2
193	129	Burtonwd Brw	171	...	4.7	3.5	14.3
181	75	Eldridge P 'A'	159	...	...	2.8	22.1
70½	50	Fosters Brewing	59½	+½	...	5.0	68.7
493	338	Fullr Sm 'A'	471	...	7.5	2.0	19.8
506	373	Grand Met	480 †	+12	...	3.3	21.3
511	347	Greenalls Grp	448	-3	...	3.4	15.4
384	305	Greene King	334	...	...	2.9	14.9
542	388	Guinness	523	+3	...	2.9	19.5
281	230	Hardy Hanson	252 †	...	...	4.2	13.5
150	105	Heavitree	150 †	...	3.6	3.0	∞
457	255	Highland Distl	420	+6	...	2.0	20.9
3225	2538	Holt J	3163	...	42.0	1.7	20.6
186	118	Macallan-Glen	145	...	4.3	3.8	32.6
465	365	Marstn Marts 'A'	465	...	...	2.5	21.2
249	164	Mansfield	207	...	...	2.4	14.8
302	231	Mrstn Thmp	298	+1	...	2.3	16.6
595	288½	Matthew Clark	555 †	+5	...	4.1	31.8
300	125	Mrrydwn W	155	...	7.0	5.6	13.9
580	455	Morland	510	+2	...	2.4	17.5
12	6½	Paramount▲	10	-½	...	1.9	18.0
287	145	Regent Inns	256	...	...	2.0	25.8
1521½	753½	SA Breweries	1225	+28½	...	2.2	20.3
591	393	Scot & New	558½	+7½	...	3.8	17.1
225	159½	Taunton Cider	161	...	6.2	4.9	12.6
306	213	Vaux Group	275	+6	...	4.3	17.7
420	225	Wetherspoon JD	383	...	...	1.8	29.7
647	435	Whitbread	562	+14	...	4.0	13.5
613	463	Wolvrhmptn D	519	+2	...	3.0	14.6
528	475	Young 'A'	517	...	14.7	3.6	21.4

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
205	73	Abbey	185	...	...	1.4	30.4
27	12	Albrighton▲	24	...	...	0.5	...
200	87	Allen▲	192	...	...	3.3	43.5
164	65	Amec	152	-2	3.0	2.5	28.1
454	150	Ashtead▲	425 †	-½	...	1.4	28.4
165	101	Atwoods	162	...	...	3.9	...
363	180	BPB Ind	346	+3	...	2.7	41.4
127	57	Baggeridge Brk	126	...	...	3.2	37.3
41	18	Bailey (Ben) Con	37	...	0.6	20.0	...
108	68	Barcon	83	...	...	4.5	10.0
60	33½	Bardon	54	-1	2.0	4.6	26.6
280	94	Barratt Devs	265	-6	...	1.9	28.5
304	152½	Bellway	274	-1	...	2.7	25.8
59	15	Bellwinch	53	...	...	...	...
243	98	Berisford Intl	229 †	...	...	...	...
573	285½	Berkeley Gp	539	-4	...	1.4	28.1
156	45	Bett Bros	156	...	...	1.6	20.1
78	36	Blockleys	78	...	1.0	1.6	...
391	189	Blue Circle	348	+2	...	4.0	...
355	230	Boot (Henry)	342	...	6.0	2.2	19.1
117	78	Breedon PLC	104	-5	4.6	5.3	25.6
154	82	Br Dredging	146	...	5.2	4.5	32.4
95	45	Brit Fittings	93	-2	1.7	2.4	...
197½	99	Bryant	180 †	...	...	3.3	27.4
146	53	CALA	143	...	...	2.0	...
390	200	CRH	383	+5	...	2.4	∞
70	18	Calebread Rby	55	...	...	...	...
42	21	Costain	37	...	...	...	...
185	86½	Countryside	175 †	+2	...	2.9	∞
120	35½	Crest Nicholson	111 †	...	...	1.1	...
140	27	Cussins	134	-1	...	1.0	...
25½	13	Edmond Hldgs	20½	...	0.3	1.8	...
317	178	Epwin	317	...	7.5	3.0	∞
82	32	Erith	73	...	0.3	0.6	...
506	282	Eve Group▲	458 †	...	...	...	...
245	97	Freeman Gp▲	228	...	6.0	3.3	38.8
80	38	Galliford	55	...	...	2.3	...
102	52	Gibbs & Dandy	93	...	...	2.7	...
1028	695	Gleeson (MJ)	1025	...	...	1.6	17.8
173½	75	Hewden-Stuart	159½	+1½	...	2.1	34.1
53	28	Hewetson	51 †	...	...	3.1	37.7
473	173	Heywd Wm	436	-1	13.0	4.0	...
145	37	Higgs & Hill	127	+1	2.5	2.5	...
39	26	How Gp	29	...	...	4.8	...
32	15	Howard Hldgs	26	...	0.5	2.4	...
100	39	Ibstock Johnsen	92	+1	1.0	1.4	...
23½	12½	Jarvis	23½	...	...	...	...
428	196	Laing (J)	403	...	9.0	2.8	16.1
164	103	-do- 6.4% Cv Pf	149½	...	...	5.4	...
145	55	Ln Clydesdale▲	142	...	...	4.2	27.9
250	100	Lovell (YJ)	143	...	...	...	...
405	240	Manders	363	...	9.3	3.2	22.3
213½	93	Marley	185	+1	4.2	2.8	34.3
155	61	Marshalls	138 †	...	...	3.6	...
253	122	Maunders (J)	251	...	...	2.6	24.2
330	96	McAlpine (A)	316 †	...	6.5	2.6	∞
82½	23	McCarthy & S	72	...	0.5	0.9	...
569	272	Meyer Int	502	-2	...	2.5	50.3
190½	62	Mowlem (J)	188	-1	4.0	2.7	...
214	51	NSM	213	+3	...	...	...
53	41	Needler▲	48	...	...	4.4	19.1
196	106	Newman Tnks	169	+2	...	5.0	22.6
362	197	Persimmon	347	...	8.6	3.1	35.4
26	4	Phoenix Timber	17	...	...	6.5	...
1790½	1237½	Pochins	1790½	...	29.0	2.0	25.5
198	80	Prowting	183	...	3.4	2.3	...
1039	535	RMC Gp	963	+25	...	2.6	36.2
117	75½	Raine Ind	99½	+2	...	2.5	21.4
40	18	Ransom▲	35	...	...	...	...
640	402	Redland	573	-2	25.0	5.5	33.3
86	64	Roxlel	75	+1	4.3	7.2	11.1
371	207	Rugby Group	322	-1	6.4	2.5	24.7
68	23	Swift-Rves	63	...	...	0.6	...
189	68	Sharpe & Fisher	169	...	...	3.0	20.4
288	86½	Sheffield Ind	249	-1	...	2.7	61.1
288	82	Sheriff Hldgs▲	253	...	...	1.6	24.1
110	66	Shorco▲	110	...	5.2	5.9	25.0
345	196	Smart (J)	340	...	...	4.4	18.1
6½	1½	Stanmin	5	...	...	...	...
204½	100	Tarmac	200	+1	5.5	3.4	...
257	131	Tay Homes	257	...	...	2.8	31.7
183	63	Taylor Woodrw	172	...	1.0	0.7	...
780	433	Tilbury Dougls	740	...	33.0	5.6	24.1
60	19	Torex Hire▲	53 †	...	...	1.4	...
370	148	Travis Perkins	326	+2	8.0	3.1	57.4
29½	5½	Trencherwood	23	...	...	...	...
43	25	Try Group	35	...	1.0	3.8	9.3
28	21	Tudor▲	23	+2	0.2	1.4	...
113	43	Vibroplant	105	-1	2.5	3.0	37.8
74	20	Ward Hldgs	66	...	...	...	...
45	25	Waterhouse	43	...	...	...	...
491	360	Watts Blake	491	+18	...	3.1	21.2
229½	90	Westbury	224	-1	5.0	2.9	33.4
7	3	Wiggins	6	...	...	...	...
571	362	Wilson Bowdn	552	-1	...	2.0	38.8
259	147	Wilson (C)	232	...	3.9	2.1	40.2
249	106	Wimpey G	225	+1	...	2.9	...
47	15	YRM	28	...	...	...	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
740	463	ADT	676	+1	...	...	...
428	198	Adam & Harvey	428	...	13.0	3.8	7.8
92	56	Air London▲	67	...	3.5	6.5	12.0
62	37	African Lakes	61	...	2.0	4.1	...
178	93	Auto Sec	127	-1	...	6.0	22.8
162	84	BET Ord	139½	...	...	2.1	5.4
145	41	BNB Res	142	...	4.9	4.3	...
318	183	BPP	249	...	8.3	4.2	12.7
186	154	BSM	183	...	...	3.9	16.0
285	195	Barbour Index	219 †	...	8.1	4.7	14.9
1½	1½	Black & Edgn▲	1½	...	...	...	...
28	15	Bousead	21	...	0.7	4.2	...
269	184	Brit Data Mgt	212	-7	4.9	2.9	15.3
29	11	Broadcastle▲	28	...	...	1.1	22.3
76	48	Brooks Service	69	+1	...	0.9	...
117	86	CRT Gp	117 †	+2	...	3.1	21.1
240	139½	Capita Group	207	...	2.5	1.6	∞
59	31	Carter Plc	54½	+½	...	2.1	21.0
55	18½	Chiltern Capital	21½	+½	...	...	...
85	26	Christie	83	...	...	...	...
423	228	Chubb Sec	396	+3	...	1.7	24.6
132	90	Comac	106	+1	...	1.8	27.3
55	6½	Corp Services	55	+3	0.2	0.6	∞
97	28	Crums Cnsltg	96	+2	...	...	...
179	50	Dart	157	...	3.3	2.6	21.3
276	198	Davis Service	257	...	...	3.9	19.4
154	85	EW Facts▲	141	...	4.4	3.9	16.2
34	11	Gardiner	28	...	...	3.3	12.3
334	215	Hays	308	+3	...	2.2	26.9
289	174	Hogg Robinsn	284	...	...	3.0	20.7
70	32	Holmes Protectn	33	...	...	...	2.0
369½	127	Hunt Whamp	296	+12½	...	1.6	24.5
2690½	975	ISS B DKr	2500½	-6½	...	0.8	17.3
637	475	Inchcape	530	+5	...	3.2	17.9
1035	669	Johnson Clean	1009	-1	25.7	3.2	22.0
12	2½	Lep	7	...	...	...	...
362	175	Mitie Gp	355 †	-3	4.0	1.4	24.5
1259½	895	Manpower	1259½	+18½	...	...	...
78½	40½	Michael Page	76½	...	1.8	2.9	32.5
279	108	Penna▲	109	...	8.0	9.2	4.1
6½	2	Prime People▲	4½	...	...	...	...
142	57	Prosttool	70	...	...	...	3.9
423	337	RCO	401 †	+2	15.2	4.7	13.5
118	86	REA	106	...	2.0	2.4	...
127	43	Reed Executive	124	...	...	...	...
156	105	Reliance Sec▲	130	...	4.5	4.3	34.1
279	178	Rentokil	254	+4	2.5	1.2	31.7
368	230	Rolfe & Nolan	328	...	...	2.8	22.5
309	278	Salvesen (C)	270	...	...	3.5	18.5
58	26	Scott Pickford▲	55	...	0.8	1.8	17.5
17½	5	Select Appt▲	12½	...	...	...	...
1475	685	Serco Gp	1490	...	17.0	1.4	∞
353	83	Sherwd Cmpt▲	85	...	...	10.3	2.5
130	80	Sketchley	114	...	...	3.3	26.1
355	310	Warner Howrd	335	...	6.6	2.5	17.5
45	26	Wetpac	26	-1	...	...	...
30½	14	Wills Gp	29 †	+½	...	1.8	20.3

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
280	230	Allied Colloids	267	+2	...	2.0	24.6
1084	613	Amersham	1047	+2	...	1.7	30.1
7	1½	Anglo Utd	1½	...	...	...	...
£119½	8325	BASF DM	£117½	+125	...	5.4	...
373	199	BTP	337	...	...	3.5	27.1
£144½	£101½	Bayer DM80	£141	+83½	...	3.7	...
185	105	Blagden	171	...	6.5	4.8	18.4
186	93	Brent Chems	118½	...	...	7.8	10.8
530	340	Br Bio-Tech	425	+10	...	...	...
28	5	Cabrd Gp	10½	...	...	...	29.9
199	126	Canning (W)	177	...	7.2	5.1	20.3
475	388	Cantab Pharms	413	+2	...	...	...
608	421	Courtaulds	531	+10	...	3.3	13.3
382	228	Croda	373	+4	...	2.6	21.5
149	103	Dorfecs	130	...	4.6	4.4	10.0
282	175	Ellis & Everard	253 †	...	...	3.6	21.2
42½	15½	Euro Colour	39½	...	0.8	2.8	18.9
351	250	Halstead (J)	344	-1	...	2.4	17.0
241	150	Hickson	200	...	...	5.0	18.5
£123½	8850	Hoechst	£119½	+162½	...	3.0	...
229	157	Holliday Chem	210	...	...	2.2	19.3
815	608	ICI	785	-1	...	4.7	54.7
893	576	Laporte	814	-1	19.9	3.1	22.5
248	181	Leigh	225	...	...	4.3	19.8
97½	35	MTM	65	...	...	...	...
2400	1462½	Norsk Hydro	2209½	-18½	...	1.4	∞
636	350	Pearson Zoch	603	...	...	2.6	20.4
595	360	-do- 'A'	574	...	...	2.7	19.4
256	193	Plysu	243	+1	...	2.5	20.7
304	173	Porvair	301 †	+4	4.2	1.7	∞
70	35	Sutcliffe Speak	65	...	...	...	...
490	412	Wardle Storeys	483	...	...	4.5	22.3
650	395	Wolstnhlme R	650	...	17.0	3.3	21.2
483	330	Yorks Chem	434 †	...	...	2.3	20.5
312	233	Yule Catto	301	...	...	2.5	18.8
869	593	Zeneca	762	-1	...	4.6	16.4

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
102	53	Alexon	72	-1	...	5.2	...
348	173	Allders	334	+3	...	3.3	17.4
410	257	Argos Plc	359	+7	...	2.5	30.8
25	8	Ashley Group	9	...	...	2.6	...
118	69	Ashley (Laura)	92	-1	0.1	0.1	...
357	278	Asprey	337	...	5.2	1.9	21.7
199	94	Austin Reed	186	...	...	1.7	...
168	125	Beattie (J) 'A'	168	...	...	4.7	16.4
150	94	Bemalls	143	...	1.9	1.7	...
278	125	Betterware	148	...	...	1.8	17.7
47	22	Blacks Leis	39	...	2.2	7.2	...
261½	133	Body Shop	235	+3	...	0.9	30.3
16½	8½	Brown & Jacksn	8½	-½	...	1.2	4.4
491	318	Brown (N)	441	...	...	2.1	25.9
87½	51	Burton	54	...	...	4.6	...
245	126	Cantors	230	...	...	2.2	31.9
520	205	Church	430	...	12.5	3.6	38.3
183	97	Clinton Cards	165	...	4.3	3.3	19.9
287	212	Coats Viyella	259	+4	...	3.6	35.8
120	78	Colourvision▲	86 †	...	5.6	8.1	15.4
181	154	Ctry Casuals	167	...	...	3.1	15.5
935	394	Courts Furnish	874 †	...	5.6	0.8	11.0
210	115	Crown Eyes	230	...	7.5	4.5	14.4
137	89	Dairy Farm Intl	109½	-½	...	2.5	15.2
109½	51½	Dewhirst (IJ)	108	...	0.8	0.9	34.7
280	189	Dixons Grp	214	-1	...	3.7	...
21	8	ERA Gp	10	...	...	...	...
580	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	580	...	16.0	3.5	19.9
284	71	Essex Furn	271 †	...	...	1.8	43.4
273	203	Etam	233	...	7.0	3.8	21.4
608	499	Fine Art Dev	507	...	13.0	3.2	16.5
70	26	Fired Earth Tiles	48	...	...	...	...
713	498	Forminster	710	...	14.5	2.6	12.9
180	24	French Conn▲	139	...	...	...	...
74	43	Gent SR	70	-1	...	4.1	21.5
100	23	Goldsmiths Gp	97	+6	0.3	0.4	...
659	374	GUS	582 †	-2	...	2.5	18.0
40	21	Hampden Grp▲	25	...	...	5.0	12.4
277	30	Harstone	74	...	...	...	...
33½	20	Helene Plc	29½	...	2.0	8.5	13.9
110	89	Heritage▲	92	...	...	...	...
91	38	Honeysuckle▲	86	...	...	3.6	12.8
211	63	Jacques Vert	188 †	-3	...	2.3	14.4
783	496	Kingfisher	604	+8	...	2.9	20.8
88	62½	Leslie Wise Gp	81 †	...	4.0	6.2	∞
685	495	Liberty	540	...	7.2	1.7	63.6
380	241	Lloyds Chem	348	+2	...	2.6	12.1
198	120	MFI	167	+3	...	2.9	75.0
461½	311	Marks Spencer	426	+7	...	2.5	21.8
680	445	Menzies (John)	674 †	...	...	2.1	17.6
288	138	Moss Bros	284	...	5.5	2.4	33.4
189½	139½	Next	219	+4	3.5	2.0	26.1
46	15	Oliver (G)	44	...	...	...	...
335	197	Oriflame Intl	280	...	...	4.4	13.7
63	24	Pentos	38	...	0.8	2.6	7.9
313	185	QS Hldgs	265	+1	5.1	2.4	18.9
69½	20½	Ratner Grp▲	46	-3	0.5	1.4	∞
208	120	Rosebys	208	...	...	2.9	25.0
181	135	Sherwood Gp	172	...	...	1.9	15.5
132	93	Sears	120	+1	...	3.6	48.3
41½	11	Signet Group	38½	+½	...	...	...
545	400	Smith WH 'A'	513 †	+8	...	3.6	16.5
127	83	-do- B	121½	...	...	3.1	19.6
21	4½	Specialeyes▲	13	...	...	...	...
252	176	Storehouse	226	-3	...	2.8	22.3
198	146	T & S Stores	148	+1	6.0	4.1	13.8
173	71	Tie Rack	148	-1	1.0	0.8	24.2
265	160	Time Products	251	...	7.7	3.9	21.7
132	68	Usher (Frank)▲	132	...	6.0	5.8	14.1
465	302	Vendome	436	+6	...	1.8	20.3
45	27	Vivat	38½	-½	1.0	3.2	11.9
87	42	WEW Group	55	...	...	3.1	40.5
49	34	Wensum▲	44	...	1.8	5.3	...
129	76	Wickes	119	...	...	1.1	28.4
89	45	Wld of Leather▲	87	...	...	...	...
195	142	Wyevale	177	-3	4.4	3.1	∞
4	2	Xtra-vision▲	2½	...	...	...	...

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
187	134	ACT Group	181½	+2½	...	3.4	18.2
275	223	Acal▲	266	...	...	3.0	19.1
537	385	Admiral	537	...	6.3	1.5	∞
188	104	Alba	188	+2	...	3.2	21.2
50	19½	Alphameric	39	...	...	...	...
55	22	Amstrad	37½	...	...	1.7	...
128	61	App Holo▲	94	...	...	...	...
45	9½	Arlen	33	...	...	...	...
94½	35½	Astec	91	...	...	0.3	...
271	230	Azlan	285	...	...	1.4	31.5
293	224	Bealer Hunter	275	...	...	4.3	17.0
9	2	Bennett & Fount	2½ #	...	...	...	...
478	319	BICC	461	+8	19.2	5.2	...
558	408	Blick	515 †	...	...	2.5	19.0
1700	900	Borland▲	925	...	...	...	...
384	230	Bowthorpe	349	...	...	2.5	23.2
489½	376	BT	437	+4	...	4.6	21.1
372½	309½	BT P/P	319½	+4½	...	4.6	20.7
20	5½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	15½	...	0.1	0.8	...
160	48	Burnfield	68	...	5.7	10.6	10.8
545	334½	Cable Wireless	464	+5	...	2.1	24.3
33½	11½	Chloride	33½	+½	...	...	...
276	229	CML Microsys	270	...	4.7	2.2	19.6
170	74	Comptr People	170	+2	1.5	1.1	∞
202	108½	Cray Elect	191 †	...	...	1.1	18.6
447	343	Critchley	437	+3	...	1.4	25.2
560	414	Delta	527	+1	...	3.3	22.0
580	205	Densmans Ele	578	...	...	1.4	18.6
620	395	Domino	495 †	...	7.9	2.0	∞
77	48	Dowding Mills	73	...	...	4.3	31.3
1635	865	Drucks	1635	...	10.3	0.8	32.8
589	358	Electrocompnts	526	...	...	2.0	29.8
239½	156½	El Data Prc	190 ‡	...	...	1.2	16.2
175	43	Electron House	151 †	-1	...	2.3	21.6
35	10½	Emess	30	...	0.1	0.4	...
792	442	Eurotherm	792 †	+13	...	1.5	26.9
211	108	FKI	198	+½	...	2.1	29.0
656	340	Farnell Elect	600	+1	...	1.4	31.8
91	33	Feedback▲	64½	...	...	3.9	8.7
336	101	First Tech	310 †	...	...	0.8	25.8
270	81	Forward Gp▲	236	...	4.0	2.1	16.7
22½	13½	Forward Tech	22½	+1	...	...	...
367½	264	GEC	309½ †	+2	10.4	4.2	15.5
199	132	Graseby	190	+1	...	7.2	40.0
14½	7½	Graystone	13	...	...	...	...
52	35	HICare▲	43	+1	0.5	1.5	...
183	118	Ind Control	169	...	...	3.4	14.9
398	330	Jones Stroud	368 †	...	...	3.1	14.8
128	26	Kalamazoo	127	...	2.7	2.7	29.5
19	8	Kembrey	11	...	0.1	1.8	...
396	260	Kenwood App	378	...	...	2.6	21.2
298	47	Kewill Syst▲	286	-4	...	...	...
209	100	Kode	143	...	6.0	5.2	17.0
68	16	Laser-Scan▲	25	...	...	...	...
365	122	LBMS▲	141	...	0.7	0.7	19.9
300	205	Lec Refrig	280	...	9.0	3.9	...
179	129	Life Sciences	135	-5	3.9	3.7	∞
314	164	Logica	305	...	...	1.6	35.2
35	24	LPA Inds	47	...	...	6.5	...
239	162	MK Data Mngmt	195	...	...	3.3	19.3
723	523	Macro 4	675	+7	...	3.7	20.0
281	175½	Memrr-Sw▲	234 †	...	...	2.2	19.5
3013	903	Micro Focus	980	-10	...	1.1	...
227	144	Microgen	158 †	...	7.2	5.7	∞
39½	23½	Microvitec▲	37	...	...	...	...
559	357	Misys	545 †	...	...	1.7	19.9
584	98	Mitel	418	+9	...	...	...
171	108	MMT Comp▲	168	+2	...	3.0	22.9
52	16	Molynx	23½	...	1.3	6.9	...
272	202	MTL Inst▲	265	...	3.7	1.7	20.0
165	103	Multitone Elect	134	...	3.5	3.1	25.6
148	38	Murray Ent	134	...	...	1.9	∞
3206½	2478½	NYNEX	2503½	+28½	...	...	...
188	121	Neotronics	121 †	...	...	2.7	21.1
65	42	Newmark (L)	55	...	...	...	...
362	38	Norbain▲	362	+3	...	0.5	27.9
75	20	Northamber	57	...	0.6	1.3	...
15½	5	Oceonics	8½	...	...	...	...
358	195	Oxford Inst	356 †	...	4.6	1.6	24.5
87	29	P & P	77	...	2.0	3.4	∞
96	35	Peek	90	-1	3.4	4.7	23.5
235	115	Pegasus▲	208	...	3.0	3.0	∞
£104½	9000	Philips Fn 4%	£104½	...	...	5.5	...
1843½	725	-do- Lmp nv	1840½	+159½	...	1.0	∞
432	211	Phonelink▲	432	+4	...	...	...
335	171½	Pilco	335 †	...	...	1.6	28.1
325	151½	-do- 'A' Voting	325 †	...	...	1.6	27.2
96	63	Plasmec▲	78	-2	3.0	4.8	6.6
121	76	Pressac	115	...	...	2.8	34.4
261	81	Psion▲	229	-2	2.5	1.4	60.8
261	147	Racal Elect	222	-2	4.2	2.4	13.2
70	33	Radamec	48	...	...	3.9	10.3
70	24	Radius▲	32	...	2.2	8.8	11.1
115	61	Real Time▲	115	...	...	3.3	23.6
629	367	Sage Gp	540	...	...	2.3	16.6
350	222	Sanderson Elec	345	...	9.9	3.6	14.7
89	49	Scantronic	86	...	3.1	4.6	23.5
210	117	Scholes Grp	199	...	...	3.1	25.8
375	270	Sema Gp	375	+3	3.1	1.0	∞
225	235	Servomex	268	...	5.9	2.8	20.3
49	26	Silvermines	43	...	...	2.9	...
94	37	Soundtracks▲	85 †	...	...	3.5	21.3
2862½	1737½	TDK	2881½	-9½	...	1.1	32.8
27	4½	TDS Circuits▲	13½	...	...	...	...
198	80	Telemetrix	132	...	0.8	0.8	21.7
292	178	Telspec	258	+11	...	1.2	32.4
1154	809	THORN EMI	1085 †	+3	...	3.7	25.4
181	96	Thorpe FW	181	...	...	1.8	21.1
103	23	Total Systems▲	35	+1	1.5	5.4	6.2
303	186	Tunstall	290	...	...	1.5	∞
324	164	Unitech	302 †	...	...	2.6	51.4
16	6	Verity	12½	...	...	...	...
35	22	Vistec▲	27½	...	0.3	1.7	16.2
637	387	Vodafone	601	+14	...	1.6	26.1
493	368	Volex	471	...	18.1	4.8	19.3
36	11	Western Selecsn	24	...	0.2	1.3	...
323	223	Wholesale Ftgs	323 †	...	11.7	4.5	34.3

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
717	380	East Midlands	698 †	...	...	4.0	11.3
729½	399	Eastern Elect	647 †	+3	...	3.9	12.3
480½	304	Hydro-Electric	399½	-3½	...	3.7	13.9
730½	404	London Elect	629	-7	...	4.2	11.9
850	488	Manweb	748 †	+5	...	3.7	9.3
787	424½	Midlands Elec	661 †	+2	...	4.0	10.4
530	273	National Powr	476	-5	...	2.9	11.8
801	440	Northern Elec	683 †	+6	...	4.1	8.9
301	200	Nthn Ireland	271 †	+4	...	3.2	13.1
806	430	Norweb	681 †	+5	20.8	3.8	9.0
582	273	PowerGen	566	-4	...	2.5	14.8
487	285	Scottish Power	408 †	-4	...	3.5	15.1
435	318	Seeboard	380	+8	...	3.6	11.3
825	469	Sth Wales	727	+8	...	4.0	11.1
743	426	Sth Western	649 †	-1	...	4.1	9.6
745½	436	Southern Elec	665 †	+9	...	3.9	8.8
759½	455	Yorkshire Elec	647 †	+5	...	4.1	12.2

FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
60½	50	Aitken Hume	51½	...	1.0	2.4	10.9
165	47	BWD▲	152	...	4.0	3.3	23.4
118	26	Baltic Plc	108	-1	...	1.8	∞
215	133	Blotec Inv	208	...	...	...	...
757	413	Caledonia	678	...	...	2.8	25.2
2300	1075	Camellia	2300	...	...	1.6	8.7
303	243	Candover	335	...	10.4	3.9	...
465	155	Cowen	428 †	+4	...	4.4	8.8
250	125	Ivory Sime	216	+1	...	4.1	18.7
428	150	Johnson Fry	348	-2	...	1.2	...
245	154	Lon Forfaiting▲	220	+1	9.3	3.7	∞
87	47	Manakin	78	+1	...	...	...
25½	3½	Nat Home Loan	19½	-½	...	...	0.4
56	40	Newmarket	55	...	...	...	...
365	246	Rathbone Bro	325	...	6.5	2.5	19.8
28½	17	Rutland Tst	26	...	...	3.8	15.4
400	253	S & U	376	...	10.2	3.4	14.0
114	49	Singer & Fried	99	...	...	3.8	...
1163	713	Sotheby	1075 †	...	...	1.5	...
188	113	STP Capital	185	...	3.0	2.4	63.9
234	183	Towry Law	221 †	+2	...	2.6	21.7

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2556½	1487½	Amer Express	1912½	-12½	...	...	...
229	166	Carliol	189	-2	...	2.6	23.4
1208	835	Henderson Ad	1055	...	...	5.0	24.3
251½	92	Invesco	209	...	...	1.8	...
317	164	Jardine Strat	270½	+10	...	2.9	11.3
323	154	MAI	265	+4	...	3.3	16.8
770	389	MAM	665	...	16.0	3.0	16.0
1243	633	M & G	1090	...	...	2.9	22.8
496	109	Smith New Crt	404	+10	...	2.2	4.0
81	45	Trio Hldgs	61 †	+1	2.5	5.1	∞

FOODS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
587	456	AB Food	553	...	...	3.4	11.4
77½	49½	ASDA Group	60½ #	+2	1.6	3.4	...
368	170	Acatos & Hutch	346 †	...	...	2.9	12.7
80	55	Albert Fisher	67	...	...	5.0	...
407	240	Argyll	251	...	...	7.0	14.9
270	160	Banks (S C)	260 †	+7	...	3.7	9.0
402	305	Barr (AG)	360 †	...	9.0	4.3	9.9
95	86	Bensons Crsp▲	70	+4	2.0	5.3	∞
481	357	Booker	428	...	...	6.3	37.2
56½	35	Borthwick	56	...	...	2.7	69.6
505	430	Brake Bros	486	...	6.3	1.6	20.3
51	37	Budgen	39 †	...	...	4.2	11.8
545	407	Cadbury-Schw	498	-1	...	3.4	17.6
232	78	Carrs Milling	204	...	...	2.6	14.9
196	133	Cranswick	180	...	...	6.7	14.2
22	8½	Cullens	15	...	0.5	4.2	43.1
384	119	Dalepak	119 †	...	...	5.3	34.7
543	424	Dalgety	480	+6	...	5.5	13.8
74	27	Daniels S	74	...	...	0.4	...
394	191	Devro	271	-1	...	2.5	25.8
134	80	Everest	80	...	...	5.8	14.5
391	269	Farepak	387	+3	5.9	1.9	23.8
10	3	Faringford	8	...	...	...	...
94	64	Finlay (James)	81	...	...	6.4	26.9
125	78	Fyffes	97 †	...	...	1.8	∞
483	256	Geest	270	...	8.1	3.8	12.2
20½	7	Global▲	17	...	0.5	3.7	26.5
68	43	Grand Central	55	...	0.8	1.8	...
203	139	Hazlewood Fds	159	+1	...	5.1	9.0
196½	131	Hillsdown	177	+2	8.8	6.2	13.9
250	146	Iceland Group	154	+1	...	2.8	9.7
131	92	JLI Group	110	...	...	5.3	12.2
855	542	Kwik Save	612	+8	...	3.7	11.0
282	144	Low (Wm)	161	...	...	6.5	5.6
113	41	Matthews (B)	106	...	2.3	2.8	69.4
19½	11	Merchant Retail	16	...	0.9	7.4	32.8
174	84	Morrison (W)	119	+5	...	0.9	15.5
246	177	Nichols (JN)	246	...	5.5	2.8	17.8
281	207½	Nthn Foods	225 ‡	+1	...	4.7	11.0
20½	8	Nrthmbrn Fd▲	12	...	...	...	...
229	172	Nurdin Peack	213	+1	...	3.7	11.8
354	205	Park Foods	353 †	...	...	2.3	22.2
115	58	Perkins Food	75	...	...	7.4	8.6
141	47	PizzaExpress	132	+1	...	0.5	27.8
9	1½	Regina Hlth▲	3½	...	...	...	...
584	342	Sainsbury J	379	+12	...	3.4	13.3
86	33	Senior Farms▲	81	...	1.5	2.3	14.5
225	90	Stms Food	114	-1	...	7.1	22.0
467½	355½	Tate & Lyle	427	+2½	...	3.8	11.4
273	176	Tesco	230½	+4½	...	4.0	10.5
211	123	Thorntons	192	...	...	2.4	...
229	101	Treats▲	215 †	+1	...	2.3	17.5
434½	300	Unigate	375	...	...	5.5	12.3
437	324	Utd Biscuits	354	+6	...	5.4	21.9
24½	18½	Usborne	19	+½	...	3.5	14.6
422	248	Watson & Phil	400	...	...	4.5	16.7
59	30½	West Trust	42 †	...	...	8.0	...

HOTELS, CATERERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
26	12	Abrdn Stk Ho▲	26	...	...	...	...
94	77	City Centre Rest	87	...	1.5	2.3	21.0
285	170	Forte	269	...	...	3.5	21.1
215	148	Friendly Hotels	183	...	...	3.9	35.6
11½	5	Harmony Props▲	9½	-½	...	...	...
168½	87	Jurys Hotel	159½	+½	...	4.2	12.4
222½	143	Ladbroke	198½	-½	...	3.8	54.7
109½	59	Mandarin Orntl	99½	+2½	...	3.5	24.0
35	28	Resort Hotels	45 #	...	3.4	9.6	8.8
31	11½	Ryan Hotels E	23½	-2½	...	5.3	...
1099½	700	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1053	...	7.0	0.8	...
92½	34½	Stakis	86½ †	+½	1.0	1.4	∞

INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
218	19	AAF Inds	57	...	...	19.3	3.5
616	455	AAH	493 †	+1	...	4.4	16.4
185	123	AIM	170 †	...	...	5.5	20.8
138	88	APV	128½	+1½	...	5.3	...
238	81	ASW	192	+2	...	4.0	∞
282	118	Adwest	183	+1	...	4.9	17.6
29	10	Aerospace Eng	17½	...	...	5.4	...
312	249	Airsprung	309	...	...	1.9	19.7
211	113	Alexdra W	209	...	4.1	2.5	33.1
13½	6½	Allied Radio	11	...	...	...	...
325	207½	Alumasc	325	...	...	2.4	18.0
71	17	Alvis	65 †	...	...	1.9	11.9
745	345	Amber Ind	745	...	...	3.2	17.1
68	45	Amberley Gp▲	57	-1	1.0	2.2	...
107	75	Anagen	76	...	...	...	...
145	65	Andrews Sykes	80	-1	...	4.7	...
1785	705	Astoclagauti	1673	...	...	1.2	30.9
62	37	Armour	56½	...	...	3.7	13.1
175	143	Ash & Lacy	175	...	6.4	4.6	17.9
6	2½	Ass Br Eng	4½	...	...	1.3	62.1
625	434	Avon Rubber	600	...	...	3.4	21.1
300	168	Assoc Nursg▲	294	...	...	0.4	18.0
687½	488	Atlas Equip	549	...	...	5.0	13.8
81	35	Ayrshire Metal	78	...	...	...	...
234	147	BBA	216	...	...	4.3	18.4
122	28	BLP Group▲	122	...	...	...	...
77	13	BM Gp	40½	...	...	2.0	...
770	590	BOC	719	+4	...	4.0	28.3
86½	50	BSG	80	...	...	5.0	27.2
578	353	BSS Group	550	...	...	3.9	30.7
409½	318	BTR	364	+2	...	3.8	30.4
221	147	BWI	175	...	...	4.8	16.2
50	25½	Babcock	37½	+½	...	3.7	22.2
11	4½	Bailey (CH)	8½	...	...	...	...
289	228	Baird (Wm)	244	...	8.9	4.6	16.9
531½	393½	Barlow	412½	...	...	1.9	7.5
81	48	Baynes (Charles)	75	...	...	2.5	30.7
28½	14	Bearing Power	25	...	...	4.1	14.6
300	23	Beaufird	35 †	+2	...	...	...
45	15	Bedford (W)▲	35	...	...	...	...
27½	14½	Benson Group	15 †	...	...	2.5	11.4
707	285	Bespak	343	-2	10.2	3.7	10.7
133	35	Bibby (J)	77	+3	...	...	...
312	129	Billam (J)	213	...	5.3	3.2	∞
41	21½	Bilston Burgess▲	32	...	...	...	...
11½	2	Binsec Ind	8½	+½	...	...	...
282	118½	Birkby	278	-2	3.7	1.7	14.5
48	29	Black Arrow	43	...	2.1	6.1	13.5
283	136	Black (Peter)	271	...	3.8	1.8	21.1
784	129	Bluebird Toys▲	740	-23	4.5	0.8	23.6
329	230	Bodycote	321	...	...	2.0	21.5
40	23	Bogod 'A'	35	...	0.7	2.5	13.0
609	416	Boots	534	+5	...	3.2	21.1
61	39	Booth Inds	43	...	...	...	...
524	402	Bowater	505	+3	...	3.0	21.1
1681½	1187½	Bowater Inc	1518½	+3½	...	...	...
297	199	Boxmore Intl▲	289 ‡	...	4.0	1.7	∞
20	12½	Brasway	17½	...	...	3.6	...
333	204	Brammer	329	-1	13.0	4.9	24.5
31	12	Bridgend Gp	23	...	0.4	...	...
163	64	Bridon	156	...	...	3.2	...
88	53	Bridport-Gndry	78	...	...	4.0	...
57½	31	Brierley Inv	54½	+1	...	6.4	13.1
308	190	Br Bldg & Eng	235	...	...	4.3	19.8
124	42	Br Bloodstock▲	104	...	...	...	...
528	415	Br Polythene	493	...	...	2.6	17.7
147½	54	Br Steel	141½	+4	...	1.3	...
195	115	Br Thornton	130	...	...	4.8	13.5
298	215	Br Vita	275	-3	7.3	3.3	16.9
18½	5½	Britton Grp	17½	+½	...	1.3	...
931½	555	Broken Hill	826½	-3½	...	2.2	37.4
125	78	Bromsgrve Ind	114 †	...	...	4.8	14.8
18	6½	Brooke Tool	16½	...	...	...	...
73	36	Brown & Tawse	53	...	...	...	...
186	91	Bullough	164 †	...	...	4.6	71.7
24	11½	Business Tech▲	14½	...	...	...	...
28	12	CI Group	20	...	0.5	3.6	19.2
54	11	Campbell & Arm	53	+3	...	...	...
39	6½	Cannon St	32	...	...	...	...
273	205	Cape	221	...	...	4.8	18.5
458	254	Caradon	407	-1	...	2.7	32.9
219½	128	-do- pf	194½	...	7.2	4.7	...
293	178	Circle Eng	288 †	...	...	4.1	19.9
10	7	Care UK	9½	-½	...	...	...
2887½	2025	Carnaud Mtl	2271½	-12½	...	2.7	...
104	68	Cassidy Bros▲	90 †	...	...	3.3	21.8
251	158	Castings	251	...	4.6	2.3	17.7
71	53	Cathay Intl	56	...	...	...	...
250	213	Celltech	219	...	...	...	...
195	113	Chamberlin Hill	190	...	6.5	4.3	11.9
812	605	Charter	760	+1	...	3.6	11.8
360	220	Chemring	345	...	...	3.3	17.9
92	45	Chieftain Gp▲	57	...	4.5	9.9	12.2
45½	19½	Chillington	45	+6	1.0	2.8	...
240	144	Christies Int	227	+1	...	0.8	56.3
80	34	Claybithe	63 †	...	...	5.0	...
150	95	Clayton Son	127	...	...	...	...
455	295	Cohen (A)	453	...	3.4	0.9	...
297	179	Community H	287 †	...	...	3.2	16.4
263	186½	Concentric	247	...	...	3.0	20.5
310	120	Cook (Wm)	304	...	6.0	2.5	18.4
273	182	Cookson	266	-13	...	3.0	∞
110	38	Copyprint▲	110	...	4.0	4.6	∞
238	130	Crawf Pkr 'A'	165	...	...	4.3	22.3
178	92	Cosalt	138	+5	...	4.9	...
285	150	Creighton Nt▲	275	...	7.4	3.4	19.7
48	27	CrestaCare	38	...	0.6	2.1	32.9
4075	2950½	Dana	3700	+18½	...	...	...
388	78½	Danka Bs Sys	370	+1	...	0.5	35.2
295	193	David Brown	286	...	...	2.6	20.3
982	682	De La Rue	966	+30	...	2.5	23.3
41	16	Dinkie Heel	40	...	1.1	3.4	31.8
628	391	Diploma	586	-1	...	2.6	23.5
97	50	Dobson Park	91	...	...	5.2	20.7
134	92	Dyson (J&J)	120 †	...	5.0	5.2	22.1
97	57	-do- 'A'	97 †	...	5.0	7.2	16.0
16½	8	EFG	16	...	...	...	...
442	358	EIS	437	...	...	3.5	17.3
28	16½	Elbief	16½	-3½	...	...	...
53	19	Eleco	48	...	...	...	...
3496½	1790	Electrolux 'B'	3265½	+34½	...	1.6	∞
90	43	Elliott (B)	89	...	...	...	...
548	394	Eng China Cl	497	+1	...	5.0	28.9
146	111	Environmed	132	...	...	...	...
3962½	1550	Ericsson 'B'	3006½	+109½	...	1.0	...
86	32	Eurocopy	76 †	...	...	2.8	22.4
87	47	Expamet	69	...	...	4.4	1.6
778	499	Fairey Group	742	+2	10.7	1.8	22.9
142	47	Fenner	142	...	...	...	...
101	32	Fetraris Group	101	...	...	2.5	15.0
29	9	Ferrum	10	...	1.4	17.5	7.0
66	28	Fife Indmar	60	...	...	5.7	...
251	102	Fisons	129	+1	...	8.4	12.0
60	29	Fitzwilton	48 †	...	...	9.1	...
288	215	Flogas	278 †	...	...	3.8	12.7
51	33	Folkes Group nv	47	...	1.5	4.0	26.7
126	56	French (Thomas)	125 †	...	...	3.6	26.8
264	162	Frost Group	235	...	...	2.4	30.4
88	70	GEI Int	86	...	...	3.6	...
601½	430½	GKN	557 †	+10	...	4.7	35.4
69	42	GR Hldgs	64	...	...	3.5	...
134	29	Garton Eng	125	...	4.1	4.1	...
191	108	Gestetner	176 †	+2	...	2.1	...
68	23	Gieves	61	...	...	...	44.1
801	509	Glaxo	707 †	+25	...	4.2	16.8
44½	16	Glenchewton	30	...	...	...	...
394½	245	Glynwed	378½	+10½	11.6	3.8	39.7
190	65	Goode Durrant	188	...	...	3.6	...
185	102	Grampian Hd	174	-1	5.5	4.0	30.2
398	341	Granada	549 †	...	...	2.0	21.7
486	301	Great Shm▲	486	+1	11.4	2.9	20.0
117	73	Green (Ernst)▲	83	...	...	10.5	12.6
15½	8½	Greenacre▲	14½	+½	...	2.6	14.1
17	5	Guardian Grp▲	6 #	...	...	...	...
88	30½	Haden MacLn	80	...	...	3.1	28.9
102	44	Hadleigh Inds▲	94	+1	1.0	1.3	...
80	31	Halkin Hldgs	68	...	...	...	53.1
320	115	Hall Eng	308	...	8.6	3.5	25.7
256	161	Halma	230	-2	...	1.2	28.6
71	30	Hampson Ind	64 †	...	1.7	3.3	21.1
302	222	Hanson	267½	-3½	...	5.3	24.8
221	146	Harris (Philip)	150	...	...	3.7	9.1
220	147	Harrisn Crsfld	204	+7	9.0	5.5	28.4
171	38	Havelock Euro	147	...	...	...	...
51	20	Hay (Norman)	43	+2	...	...	...
50	17	Headway	40	...	...	2.2	...
13½	1½	Healthcare	1½ #	...	...	...	0.5
511	301	Hepworth	465	+5	14.8	4.0	20.0
228	154	Hewitt (J)	183	...	3.2	2.2	14.3
73	15	High-Point	55	...	0.5	1.1	...
203	112½	Hill & Smith	184 ‡	...	...	4.2	19.2
28	6½	Hobson▲	27 #	...	...	...	...
191	87	Holders Tech▲	191	...	6.0	3.9	24.9
63	30	Hopkinsons	57	...	0.9	2.0	43.1
216	133	Hornby▲	215	...	9.0	5.2	20.3
103	54½	Howden	99	...	...	2.9	15.6
280	246	Hozelock	257	...	...	2.9	18.3
265	173	Hunting	249	+1	...	5.0	21.0
513	269½	Huntigh Tec▲	493	...	...	1.0	32.7
379	247	IMI	340	-3	...	3.7	30.2
135	90	ISA Intl	131	...	1.5	1.5	20.4
205	131	Intercare Gp▲	138 †	...	...	3.2	13.2
325	235	Isotron	325	+5	4.4	1.7	18.2
710	360	Jardine Math	564	+5½	...	2.2	20.4
610	425	Johnson Math	563	+3	...	2.3	22.0
64	35½	Johnson & FB	45½	+½	...	3.7	43.3
177	104	Johnston	158	...	3.2	...	...
32	19	Jones Shipman	28	+1	...	...	...
36	18	Jourdan (T)	30	+1	0.7	3.1	...
187½	73	Kalon	179	-1	...	3.0	∞
297	195	Kelsey Ind	280 †	...	8.0	3.8	∞
805	465	Kershaw (A)	760 †	-5	...	4.4	39.1
276	75	Kleeneze	256 †	...	...	0.5	...
422	266	Laird	390	...	...	3.4	19.2
170	103	Lilleshall	161	...	4.5	3.6	∞
225	97	Lincat▲	225	...	...	3.3	15.9
51	4½	Lincoln Hse▲	42	+2	...	...	21.4
131	76	Linread	116	...	3.8	4.1	17.0
355	170	Linton Park	345	...	...	5.1	12.5
15½	9½	Lionheart	11½	...	0.2	2.2	...
22½	15	Locker (T) A	17	...	0.8	6.3	24.7
274	97	Lon Ind	152	-2	6.2	5.1	...
179½	70	Lonrho	155 †	+½	...	3.2	76.4
431	269	Low & Bonar	428	+6	...	3.0	∞
49	14½	ML Hdgs	44	...	...	...	...
67	27	MS Intl	62	...	...	5.0	38.0
70	39	MY Holdings	61 †	...	...	2.6	16.1
271	168	Macfarlane	255	...	...	1.7	28.9
539	370	McKechnie	512	+2	...	3.6	24.6
127	85	McLeod Russel	114	...	...	6.7	16.8
106	63	Magnolia	99	...	0.1	0.1	15.9
159	71	Mang Bronze	159	...	...	2.0	26.3
26½	19½	Marling	22 †	...	...	4.8	...
231	124	Mayborn▲	218	...	5.2	3.0	16.7
64	29	Mayflower	59	...	...	2.0	49.3
236	85	Medeva	149½	+½	...	2.0	12.1
120	88	Meggitt	112	...	...	4.3	19.1
131	98	Metalrax	131	+1	...	3.6	21.4
154	112	Metrotect	124	...	...	3.3	17.2
119	70	Meteca▲	119	...	...	...	...
124	29	Midstates	114	...	...	0.8	15.9
575	368	Molins	549	...	...	3.3	13.2
403	262	Morgan Crble	383	+1	...	4.1	20.1
215	134	Morris Ashby▲	215 †	+1	5.7	3.3	16.3
51	18	Neepsend	46	...	1.0	2.7	61.7
80	34	Nestor-BNA	75	...	3.1	3.2	17.9
249	122	Nobo Gp	247 †	...	5.3	1.7	24.4
212½	122½	Norcros	191	...	...	4.6	27.9
51	32	Novo Group	32	...	...	4.3	10.3
81	36	Office Elec Mac	52	...	...	...	...
64	21	OMI Intl	55	...	...	4.0	...
173	123	PCT▲	172	...	7.2	3.3	19.5
91	36	Pacer Systems▲	73	...	...	5.8	...
43	31	Pascoes	36	...	...	...	...
138	87½	Pentland	105	-1	...	3.1	14.3
395	280	Photo-Me	295 †	-3	4.7	2.0	17.7
204	97½	Pilkington	199	+1	...	1.6	...
109	68	Plantsbrook	105	...	3.1	3.7	16.6
185	125	Polypipe	172	+3	2.1	1.5	23.2
42	15	Porter Chadbrn	23	...	...	2.2	10.5
376	272	Powerscreen	294	...	...	2.9	15.3
23½	16½	Prospect Inds	22 †	...	...	4.5	12.8
77	33½	RPS Group▲	75	...	2.3	3.8	16.6
95	73	Radiant Metal	95	...	...	...	...
186	77	Ramco Oil▲	154	...	1.0	0.8	51.6
1101	636	Rank Org	1100	+19	...	3.5	23.9
33	13	Ransomes	22	...	...	...	...
725	532	Reckitt Colm	683	-3	...	3.1	15.7
95	50	Record	95	+2	3.6	4.9	∞
7½	2½	Reece	4½	...	...	...	...
291	131	Relyon	284	...	5.0	2.2	34.1
306	208	Renishaw	280	+5	...	2.9	34.9
149	55	Renold	149½	-1	...	1.5	...
2093	1240	Reuters	2078	+44	...	1.6	28.6
87	24½	Rexmore	84	+1	2.0	3.1	...
201	91	Ricardo Group	179	...	...	4.0	25.4
76	38	Richard (Leics)	70	...	3.7	6.7	...
108	65	Richardson West	105	...	3.0	3.6	28.9
155	109	Ropner	155	...	8.2	6.7	22.0
152	97	-do- 'A'	152	...	8.2	6.8	21.5
38	14	Ross Gp	20	...	0.6	4.1	8.2
195	131½	Rotork	189	-1	...	2.5	22.1
190	89	Rubicon	160 †	...	...	3.4	20.2
75	43	Russell (A)	71	...	...	0.9	...
38	15	SEP Indl	37 †	...	0.8	2.7	∞
1337½	625	SKF 'B'	1232½	+6½	...	...	...
272	205	Scapa	262½	+½	...	2.9	18.1
238	179	Scholl	192	...	...	4.1	14.0
223	242½	Scotts	244	...	...	...	...
1291	917	Securicor	1236 †	...	...	0.3	36.5
1036	582	-do- 'A'	953 †	-4	...	0.4	28.2
862	465	Security Serv	807 †	-1	...	0.9	30.7
154½	77	Senior Eng	146	...	...	2.7	24.4
361	278	Seton Healthcare	320	...	...	2.3	18.9
166	88	Shiloh	155	...	3.0	2.4	16.7
349	271	Sidlaw	336	-2	...	3.9	16.7
626	437	Siebe	616 †	+9	...	2.1	21.7
383	220	Silentnight	348	...	...	2.0	18.9
181	102	Sime Darby	156	-2	...	3.2	16.8
142	32	Simon Eng	120	...	...	...	...
259	180	Sinclair (Wm)	225	...	...	3.9	18.1
47	35	Six Hundred	39	...	...	4.8	...
164	134	Smith & Neph	148½	...	...	4.0	16.3
513	373	Smithkline	386 †	+5	...	3.4	16.0
450	340	Smkline Uts	364 †	+8	...	3.7	14.7
527½	330	Smiths Ind	491	+2	...	3.0	19.7
140	58	Stm Bus	95 †	...	...	4.9	4.9
585	265	Spandex▲	583	...	...	1.4	25.0
660	300	Spear (JW)	505	...	14.5	3.6	9.4
409	314	Spirax-Sarco	409	...	...	2.8	29.7
137½	41½	Spring Ram	73 †	+9	...	0.9	...
270	201	Staveley	237½	+½	...	4.5	13.4
242	125	Sterling Ind	238	+1	...	3.1	36.5
220	97	Suter	199	...	9.0	5.7	20.8
611	244	Swire Pacific 'A'	469	-12½	...	1.9	∞
7	1	Sycamore	3½	...	...	...	...
78	50	Sykes-Pick	51	...	3.0	7.5	9.8
172	120	Symonds	176	...	...	3.4	25.4
455	279	TI	430	+15	...	3.2	29.4
44	12	TLS Range▲	38	...	0.2	0.8	...
375	211	TT Group	355	...	...	2.3	21.9
292	201	Takare	229	...	...	0.8	24.3
865	618	Takeda Chem	810½	+1½	...	0.8	15.4
68	24	Tex Hldgs	48	...	...	...	...
109	70	Tinsley (E)▲	97	...	...	7.2	16.2
240	150	[illegible]	220	...	...	2.4	18.3
283	212½	Tomkins	258 †	+1	...	3.2	19.0
124	59	Trafalgar H	110 †	+1	...	3.7	...
116	61	Transfer Tech	94	-1	3.2	4.3	11.8
190	120	Triplex Lloyd	161	...	...	5.4	19.4
318	214	UniChem	304	...	6.4	2.6	19.9
440	275½	Unidare	438 †	...	...	2.9	∞
76	11½	Unigroup	51	+3	...	...	...
1240	938	Unilever	1106	-7	28.0	2.9	∞
8118½	6362½	Unilever (NV)	7275	-137½	...	2.9	12.1
24½	9	Utd Inds	17½ #	...	...	...	...
1093	513	VSEL	1048	+3	...	3.6	11.3
31½	6½	Verson	24	...	...	...	...
196	95½	Vickers	180	-2	...	2.1	22.3
387	243	Victaulic	314	...	...	3.1	15.5
522	283	Vinten	511	+4	...	1.8	23.8
805	427	Vosper Thorny	798	...	...	2.6	18.5
48	33	WSP Hldgs	45	...	...	7.5	11.7
519	368	Wagon Ind	519	+3	...	4.2	22.9
8½	1½	Wakebourne	4	...	...	...	21.8
114	71	Walker Greenbk	107	...	3.1	3.6	27.3
304	201	Wassall	284	...	2.7	1.2	28.7
51	22	Watford Wdgwd	44	...	...	...	...
384	292	Weir	336	-1	...	2.2	19.1
993	604	Wellcome	657	+4	...	3.3	13.9
30	16	Wellman	27½	...	0.9	4.1	44.9
400	250	West Hltcare	376 †	...	...	1.2	24.2
558	455	Whatman	547	...	9.7	2.2	18.5
353	211	Whessoe	254	...	...	4.0	12.0
111	27	Whitecroft	107	...	...	...	...
13½	4½	Widney	12½	-½	...	...	...
191	44	Wilkes (James)	161	-2	3.5	...	47.1
421	299½	Williams Hldg	395	-4	12.5	4.0	20.7
53	17	Wilshaw	49	-½	...	1.4	30.9
920	533	Wolseley	880	+2	...	1.9	26.3
155	125	Wood (Arthur)	155	...	1.5	1.2	56.5
46	35	Wyko	45	...	...	1.4	...
96	38	Young (H)	80	...	...	5.2	...

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1903½	1149½	Alex & Alex	1337½	+6½	...	5.0	...
2406½	1743½	Am Gen	1756½	+12½	...	4.4	...
86	30	Archer	59	...	...	2.1	...
165	118	Bradstock	137 †	...	...	5.0	15.3
550	359½	Britannic	457	...	...	3.2	...
117	96	CLM Insce	107	-1	...	...	...
711	556	Com Union	605 †	-2	...	5.1	20.0
1775	1225	Dom & Gen	1758	...	...	1.6	23.2
64	18	FAI	52	-2	...	0.9	...
194	166	Fenchurch Grp	183	...	...	4.9	16.3
757	546	Gen Accident	646	...	...	5.5	13.9
247	160	GRE	197	-3	...	4.9	2.7
457	293	Heath C E	390	-2	...	5.1	...
228	122	Hogg Gp	144	...	8.1	7.1	13.1
323	255	Independent Ins	290	...	...	3.6	26.6
215	162	JIB Group	183	-1	...	5.1	18.8
547	408½	Legal & Gen	496	-1	...	4.9	30.1
1284½	768½	Liberty Life	1284½	+53½	...	2.5	20.4
121	99	LIMIT	105	...	...	...	...
471	389	Lloyds Abbey	404 †	-5	...	5.6	12.9
338	253	Lloyd Thomp	289	...	6.7	2.9	18.0
443	274	Londn & Man	398	+3	14.7	4.6	28.3
472	321	Lowndes Lmb	441	-1	14.0	4.0	15.8
6743½	5256½	Marsh McLn	5550	-18½	...	3.2	...
188	139	Nelson Hurst	170	-2	...	4.1	17.0
131	76	Orion	126	+9	...	5.0	...
83	50½	PWS	81 †	...	...	6.2	15.0
385	282½	Prudential	325	+6	...	4.7	21.6
404	266½	Refuge	379	-1	...	3.5	42.3
380	248	Royal	285 †	...	...	3.3	13.0
204	150	Sedgwick	197 †	-1	...	3.8	21.8
261	100	Steel Burrill	120	-1	...	12.5	7.1
89	48	Sturge Hldgs	78 †	...	...	4.8	66.2
418	307	Sun Alliance	342	+7	14.2	5.2	...
91	50	Trade Indemnty	88	-2	...	...	...
464	239	Transatlantic	423 ‡	...	...	3.6	38.1
773	499	Utd Friendly	640	...	15.1	2.9	27.9
243	171	Willis Corroon	208	-4	...	4.0	20.8
28	13½	Windsor	26	...	...	...	20.4

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INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2058	1548	Alliance	1921	+6	45.5	3.0	...
161	124	BZW Conv	151½	...	7.8	6.4	...
219	133½	Bankers	202½	+½	...	2.3	...
381	264	Baring Tribne	345 †	...	...	2.4	...
243	131	Berry Starq	240	...	2.2	1.1	...
120½	90½	Br Assets	109½ #	+1½	...	4.9	...
98	57½	Br Empire Sec	94	...	...	1.2	...
46	34	-do- Wnts	36½	...	...	...	...
234	156	Br Inv	213	...	4.6	2.7	...
272	174	Brunner	252 †	...	...	2.6	...
221	130	Contl Asset	207 †	+1	...	1.8	...
195	143	Derby Inc	153	+1	...	12.9	∞
325	195	-do- Cap	280	...	...	...	...
100	62	Drayton Blue	93	...	8.4	11.3	...
111	35	-do- Eng Intl	102	...	1.0	1.2	...
156	84	-do- Far East	145 †	-3	...	0.6	...
177	95	-do- Korea	162½	-½	0.5	0.4	...
784	576	Dunedin Inc G	741	+1	26.1	4.5	∞
108	76	-do- Japan	105½	+2	...	...	...
80	34	-do- Warrants	72	+1	...	...	...
827	513	-do- Wrwde	795	+5	...	1.5	...
341	222	Dundee & Lon	328	...	...	3.4	...
360	250½	Edinburgh	326½	+4	8.5	3.3	...
354	183	Electra Inv	318	+1	...	2.8	...
220	141	Electric Gen	203	+1	3.1	1.9	...
127	85	English Scot	119 ‡	...	...	...	...
345	205	European Asset	334	...	...	1.6	∞
172	77	Finsbury 'A'	156	...	3.0	2.4	...
343	248	Fleming Amer	323 †	...	...	0.6	...
145	91	Fleming Chinese	101	+1	...	...	...
92	52	-do- Warrants	61	+1	...	...	...
287	190½	-do- Claver	235	+1	3.5	2.9	∞
385	212	Do Contl	362	...	2.7	0.9	...
284	147	-do- Entp	244 †	...	...	2.5	...
459	213	-do- F East	371	+4	1.1	0.4	...
432	246	-do- Fledg	396 †	...	3.0	0.9	∞
122	93	-do- Hi Inc	106 †	...	...	3.2	...
273	136	-do- Japan	260	+7	...	0.2	...
347	250	-do- Merc	320	+2	6.7	2.6	∞
347½	212	-do- Overs	321 †	+3	4.2	1.6	...
311	203	Foreign & Col	289	+2	...	1.5	...
148	59½	-do- Emg Mkts	120	...	0.2	0.3	...
77	44	-do- Enterprise	72 †	...	0.6	1.0	∞
259	164	-do- Eurotst	247	...	...	0.6	...
145	87	-do- German	123	+1	0.5	0.5	...
374	191	-do- Pacific	343	+6	...	0.8	...
192	116	-do- Smaller	189½	...	1.8	1.3	...
303	145	GT Japan	291 †	+4	...	0.5	...
197	65	Genl Cons Cap	191	+3	...	...	...
129½	96½	-do- Inc	106 †	+½	...	10.3	...
191	115	Govett Am Smlr	174	...	...	...	...
151	96	-do- Emg Mktr	130	-1	...	...	...
110	96	Govett High Inc	97	...	...	7.0	...
428	184	-do- Oriental	387	+5	0.9	0.3	...
346	207	-do- Strategy	316	+2	...	2.7	...
475	340	Greenfriar	468 †	...	...	1.8	...
19	5	Gresham House	19	...	...	...	...
102	94	Herald	100	+½	...	...	...
158	124	Inv Cap	139 †	...	...	4.6	...
119	77	IAS UK Smllr	108	...	2.8	3.2	...
243	156½	Kleinwort Chrt	217 †	+1½	...	3.0	...
272½	176	-do- O'seas	251	+1	3.4	1.7	∞
165	108	-do- Smlr	162	...	...	2.7	...
835	540	Law Debenture	754	...	18.5	3.1	...
227	184	Majedie	215	...	...	2.9	...
324	221	Merchants	285½	+5½	...	4.8	...
3349½	1850	Merrill Lynch	2687½	-37½	...	...	...
595	383	Monks Inv Tst	556	+7	...	1.5	...
158	105	Morg Gren Inc	145	...	...	3.9	...
64	23	Do Warrants	51	+3	...	...	...
148	58	Murray Ent	134	...	...	1.9	∞
£280	£117½	-do- Pf 1994	£280	...	...	...	...
58	41	-do- Warrants	41	...	...	...	...
68	39	Murray Euro	63½	-½	0.1	0.3	...
23½	4½	Do Wts	20½	...	...	...	...
393	282	Murray Incme	361 †	+2	11.3	3.9	∞
395	265	-do- Ind	374	+4	11.6	3.9	∞
548	263	-do- Small	501	-1	...	1.1	...
103	82	-do- S/C Inc	84 †	+1	...	15.8	...
174	73	-do- S/C Cap	140	+1	...	...	...
3400	2750	-do- S/C Uts	3400 †	...	...	3.9	...
160	142½	-do- S/C DP	154	...	...	...	...
363	230	-do- Vent	339	...	...	4.0	...
95	68	Nthrhng Inc	84 †	...	6.7	10.2	...
404	249	O'seas Inv Tst	371	...	...	1.1	...
647	285	Pacific Assets	521	+5	1.2	0.3	∞
545	187	Do Warrants	436	+5	...	...	...
9400	7650	Personal Assets	9250	...	190	2.6	...
180	100	RIT Cap Ptnr	176	...	1.1	0.8	...
127	108	River & Merc	116 †	...	...	9.9	∞
465	350	Robeco	448	...	...	2.8	...
483	346	Rolinco	463	...	...	1.7	...
343	214	St Andrew Inv	337	+1	7.8	2.9	∞
183	131	Scot American	171 †	+1	...	3.4	...
371	136	Scott Asian	291	+5	...	...	...
1090	225	do Warrants	855	+5	...	...	...
97½	63½	-do- Eastern	89	+½	1.5	2.2	∞
262½	183	Scottish	240	+2	...	2.6	...
264½	178	-do- Mtge	235½	+1½	4.0	2.1	...
133½	71	-do- Value	124	...	...	1.8	...
1795	1390	Second Allnce	1647 †	+7	...	3.0	...
106	74½	Secs Tst of Scot	98	+1	3.2	4.1	...
179	109½	Selective Asset	174 †	+1	...	1.0	...
51½	14	Sphere Inv	46	+1	3.4	9.2	∞
205	112	TR Far East	173 †	+1	...	3.6	...
177½	126	TR City Of Lon	161½	+½	...	3.7	...
249	110	TR Pacific	205	+4	0.3	0.2	∞
43½	17	TR Property	39½	+½	0.9	2.9	...
152	47	TR Tech Inv	139½	+½	1.7	1.6	...
228	146	TR Smlr Cos	217 †	...	...	2.2	...
412	283	Temple Bar	367 †	+2	13.5	4.6	∞
135	69	Thrntn Asian E	115	+2	0.5	0.5	...
101	54	Throgmorton	85 †	...	2.3	3.4	∞
553	363	Thrgg Dual Cp	508	+5	...	...	...
269	178	USDC Invest	255	...	4.5	2.2	...
129	76½	Value Inc Tst	122	...	4.0	4.1	...
257½	181	Witan	237½ #	+3	...	3.1	...

LEISURE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
589½	269	Airtours	534	...	...	2.1	18.3
64	41	Ald Leis	44	...	...	8.5	34.3
668	394	Anglia TV	634	...	...	1.8	29.4
131	63	Baldwin	106 †	...	3.5	4.1	∞
289	192	Barr & W 'A'	288	...	10.0	4.3	18.6
1400	930	Boosey Hwks	1300	...	22.0	2.1	19.5
205	90	Border TV▲	180 †	...	3.6	2.5	14.7
16½	4	Brent Walker	5	...	...	...	...
150	48	Bristol Scots	125	...	...	...	...
9	2½	Buckingham Int	6	...	...	...	...
292	44	Campari	58	...	8.7	18.9	...
439	171	Capital Radio	389	-5	...	1.8	34.3
1047	520	Carlton Comm	945 †	+6	...	2.5	22.5
304	158	Castle Comms▲	287	...	...	3.7	19.0
3130	1615	Central TV	2925	...	39.0	1.7	31.9
163	61	Chrysalis	140 †	...	3.2	2.9	...
748	470	Compass Gp	716 †	...	...	2.2	20.0
350	175	Eurocamp	260 †	...	9.7	4.7	10.7
1180	268	Euro Disney	384½	-1	...	3.0	...
8	1½	Euro Leisure	3½	...	...	...	...
43½	18	Ex-Lands	40	+½	...	1.1	...
419	245	Fairline Boats	380 †	...	...	3.5	35.8
378	232	First Leisure	319 †	+3	...	2.6	21.6
478	403	Flextech▲	419	+1	0.5	0.1	...
1033	398	GWR Gp▲	978 †	...	9.0	1.2	∞
303	149	Grampian	286	...	6.5	2.8	19.8
22	4½	Greenwich Comm▲	16	...	...	...	...
161	19	HTV Group	149	...	1.0	0.8	∞
96	30	Hi-Tec Sports	92	...	...	3.1	...
18½	5½	Kunick	16½	+½	...	...	15.5
752	405	LWT Hldgs	723	...	...	0.9	33.4
700	322	Man Utd	700	...	...	3.5	28.2
48	7½	Northern	41	...	...	...	7.9
148	59	Owners Abrd	122½ #	+½	3.5	3.6	∞
89	33	The Pelican Gp	84	...	1.1	1.6	19.7
183	55	Prism Leisure▲	178 †	...	3.5	2.5	16.5
43	16	Quadrant Grp	40	...	...	...	...
234	132	Ramsdens (H)	234 †	...	4.5	2.4	∞
628	274	Scott Radio▲	585	...	...	2.0	26.0
574	410	Scot TV	539	...	10.3	2.4	26.5
40½	13½	SelecTV▲	35½	-½	...	...	...
117	37	Southern Radio	111	-1	...	1.4	49.2
346	164	Stanley Leisure	346 †	...	...	1.9	28.0
147	115	Sunset & Vine	147	+1	3.5	3.0	22.4
420	345½	Tanjong	345½	...	...	0.5	18.7
2½	1	Ticketing▲	2	...	...	...	...
117	75	Tottenham Hot	82	...	...	3.0	31.4
182	44	Trans World▲	168	...	1.3	1.0	60.9
760	274	Ulster TV	726	-3	12.0	2.1	22.3
145½	62	Vardon	144	+1	1.1	1.0	∞
395	110	Yorkshire TV	338	+2	3.3	1.2	...
126	83	Zetters Gp	125	...	8.0	8.0	14.1

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
3675	1125	Ang Am	3237½	+143½	...	2.2	27.4
1887½	1018½	Ang Am Coal	1843½	+37½	...	5.0	9.5
6518½	1800	Ang Am Gold	5653½	+62½	...	4.0	25.3
33½	8½	Anglo Pac Res▲	31½	...	...	...	...
405	115	Bakyrchik	300	...	...	...	...
197	33	Blyvoors	134½	+5	...	...	...
46	18	Bracken	30½	...	...	28.3	5.3
896	233	Buffels	713 †	+1½	...	9.1	6.3
6	1	Butte	3½	...	...	...	...
930½	546	CRA	815½	-3½	...	2.6	26.1
54	11	Cluff Res	51½	...	...	...	...
1750	762½	De Beers	1600	+31½	...	3.1	21.7
165	37½	Deelkraal	100½	+½	...	2.0	7.4
96	7	Doornfontein	40½	...	...	...	...
914	388	Driefontein	738	-13	...	4.5	12.2
788	120	Durban	553½	+1½	...	...	...
201	47	E Rand Gold	112½	-3	...	9.7	3.3
175	35	E Rand Prop	88	+½	...	...	...
604	117	Elandsrand	344 †	-7½	...	5.7	∞
1299	282	FS Cons	905½	...	...	7.1	11.7
80	8	FS Dev	37	...	...	...	...
1800	725	GFSA	1381½	+37½	...	2.9	23.2
150	62½	Gencor	149½	+3½	...	4.6	16.1
80½	35½	GM Kalgoorli	63½	-½	...	2.2	26.1
22½	5	Greenwich R 'A'	16½	...	...	...	...
202	49	Grootvlei	117½	+½	...	8.5	7.4
416	78	Harmony	365½	+1	...	...	...
430	87	Hartebst	338½	-5½	...	8.4	8.4
21½	8½	Inmco	17½	...	...	...	14.4
1028½	490½	Impala Plat	890½	+9½	...	3.1	29.1
16½	6	Kenmare Res▲	14½	+½	...	...	...
1315½	331½	Kinross	958½	+6½	...	6.5	10.6
913	319	Kloof	699½	+5½	...	3.6	8.1
137	25	Leslie	79½	-6½	...	14.9	4.1
359	13	Loraine	188	-6½	...	...	...
950	620	Lydenburg	950	...	...	2.2	...
149	80	MIM	133½	-2½	...	1.7	58.0
1512	820	Minorco	1362	+13	...	2.8	16.1
201½	91	Nth Brkn Hill	164½	+3	...	3.0	25.2
4587½	612½	Orange Free	2350	-12½	...	5.4	13.9
899	607	RTZ	847	+3	...	2.9	23.9
225	109½	Rand Mines	187½	...	...	6.0	7.1
801½	150	Randfontein	570½	+1½	...	7.2	5.7
285	115	Renison	215	-7	...	2.1	22.2
1349½	850	Rustenbrg	1215½ #	+12½	...	2.6	27.8
756	191	St Helena	624½	+1½	...	6.8	13.1
2887½	475	Southvaal	1818½	+21½	...	5.1	∞
119	18	Stilfontein	79½	+½	...	26.1	14.8
201	58	Unisel	102½	+½	...	4.3	9.8
7600	1800	Vaal Reefs	6090½	-18½	...	4.4	∞
813	154	Welkom	608	-5	...	5.5	13.6
640	26	Western Areas	570½	+8	...	4.6	4.0
3362½	587½	Western Deep	2615½	-34½	...	4.2	∞
398	176	Wstrn Mining	327½	-1½	...	1.6	...
1225	321½	Winkelh	712½	+9½	...	6.5	6.8
84	49	Zambia Copper	57	-3	...	...	...
68	18	Zandpan	52	...	...	8.9	17.2

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
263	233	Abbey Panels	263	...	...	...	...
135	95	Airflow Stream	113	...	3.0	3.3	10.9
175	78	Appleyard	162	...	...	4.0	...
405	203	Bletchley Mtr	403	...	...	2.8	20.5
231	120	Bostrom	230	...	6.0	3.3	40.7
584	165	Br Aerospace	502 †	+6	...	2.1	44.1
58	19½	Burndene	48	...	...	4.6	12.9
465	303	Caffyns	438	...	11.5	3.3	23.2
22	4½	Caverdale	19	+½	...	...	...
143	98	Central Mtr▲	125 †	...	...	4.0	30.9
43	18	Cook (DC)▲	37	...	0.9	3.0	21.0
348	156	Cowie (T)	328	+1	7.8	3.0	∞
205	86	Dag Motors	195	...	5.7	3.7	35.3
157	102½	Davenpt Vern	153 †	...	4.2	3.4	∞
332	155	ERF	331	...	2.0	0.8	...
173	92	European Mtr	149	...	...	3.1	20.9
514	208	Evans Halshaw	514	...	11.4	2.8	70.2
308	211	FR Group	289	...	...	3.1	13.5
4718½	2843½	Ford Motor	4262½	-18½	...	...	...
4387½	2143½	General Mtr	4062½	+18½	...	1.3	...
90	38	Gowrings	82	-1	2.0	3.0	...
354	85	Henlys	352	+7	7.5	2.7	∞
1146½	769	Honda Motor	1109½	-14	...	0.8	...
48	15	Jacks (Wm)	41	...	...	...	...
116	66	Jessups	92	...	4.5	6.1	...
184	97	Kwik-Fit	163	...	...	2.7	23.0
573	281	Lex Service	549	...	...	2.6	30.0
276	85	Lookers	275	...	...	3.0	26.4
239	126	Lucas	220	+2	...	4.0	...
29½	21	Malaya Grp	27½	...	...	...	...
310	224½	Pendragon	309	...	...	2.6	25.4
238	101½	Perry Gp	234	...	...	3.8	...
218	108	Quicks Group	213	...	...	2.8	27.2
188	95½	Rolls-Royce	174	+6	...	3.6	...
249	164	T & N	243	+4	...	3.6	...
300	163	Trinity Hldgs	271	...	...	2.6	25.4
231	125	Vardy (Reg)	218	...	...	2.5	25.5
338	121	Westland	329	...	...	1.7	23.1

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
355	108	Adscene	325 †	...	5.7	2.2	33.3
380	315	Black (A&C)	335	...	13.5	5.0	13.7
608	290	Blenheim Gp	345	...	...	3.4	12.8
403	275	Bristol	400	...	...	3.8	36.1
1680	1100	Daily Mail	1515½	-9½	...	1.2	35.5
1494½	768½	Daily Mail 'A'	1300 ‡	-25	...	1.4	30.4
355	210	Dorling Kind	280	-1	...	1.6	23.5
6712½	4337½	Elsevier	6328½	-12½	...	1.5	21.4
476	322	EMAP	435	...	...	2.3	26.8
1600	873	Euromoney Pb	1600	...	...	3.0	28.1
264	154	Harrington K	173	-5	4.7	3.4	14.1
515	155½	Haynes Pub	453	...	...	2.0	25.3
390	334	Hodder H'line	390	...	5.1	1.7	39.2
180	99	Home Counts	170	...	5.2	3.9	...
195	30	Intl Bus Comm	192	...	...	...	27.8
15	6½	Int Cm & Data▲	13	-½	...	...	...
510	340	Independent	485	...	...	2.6	26.2
655	395	Johnston Press	653	...	6.5	1.2	28.3
386	243	Metal Bulletin	356	...	8.2	2.9	25.1
203	88	Mirror Gp	173	+6	...	...	...
515	287	News Corp	459½	+3	...	0.3	...
314	169	News Intl	281	-3	...	0.6	17.2
735	342	Pearson	693	+25	...	2.2	37.7
760	510	Portsmth Sund	758	...	...	1.6	30.9
964	618	Reed Int	895	+5	...	2.4	39.0
249	98	Southnews	248	...	2.3	1.2	45.9
200	90	Sterling Pub▲	200	+2	...	1.9	24.3
608	328	Telegraph	607	...	...	2.7	19.5
885	715	Thomson Corp	835 †	...	30.1	4.5	41.7
472	313	Trinity Intl	468	...	9.0	2.4	28.0
39	21	Unit Group▲	30	...	...	...	...
731	480½	Utd Newspapers	675	+1	...	4.0	18.8

OILS, GAS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
37	17	Aran Energy	28½	...	...	...	22.8
61	33	Arcon Intl▲	40	...	...	...	...
73½	41½	Ass Oil & Gas	70½	+1½	...	...	...
83	26	Aviva Pet	54	-1	...	...	...
16	3½	Beverley	8	...	...	...	79.5
233	145	Br Borneo	221	...	7.1	4.0	6.7
361½	276	British Gas	319	+3	...	5.8	...
409½	325	Br Petroleum	363 †	+7	...	2.9	30.8
3½	1	Bula Resources	2½	-½	...	...	...
875	675	Burmah Castrl	822	+1	...	3.8	19.2
68	32	Cairn Energy	58½	...	...	...	8.4
375	233	Calor Gp	337	...	...	4.5	18.1
60½	32½	Clyde Pet	49½	...	...	...	...
44	23½	Conlex Res	25	+½	...	...	...
27½	10½	Edin Oil & Gas	25½	...	...	...	∞
521	397	Enterprise	478	+1	...	4.6	24.1
88	26	Exp Co Louis	68	-2	...	...	...
34½	18½	Fairhaven Intl	24½	...	...	4.4	8.8
10½	4	Fortune	6½	...	...	...	...
67	45	Goal Pet	62	+1	1.4	2.8	11.9
48	18	Gt Western Res	40	...	...	...	...
181	104½	Hardy O & G	154	+3	...	0.8	14.3
58	18½	Kelt Energy	48	...	...	...	...
195	97	LASMO	131	+2	...	3.1	26.5
103	63	-do- Units	65	...	9.4	18.2	...
24	2	Mid Scot Res▲	4½	...	...	...	...
64½	34	Monument	63	+½	...	...	...
9½	4	New London	6	-½	...	...	...
33	21	Nth Sea Assets	30	...	1.0	4.3	10.0
50	27	Oil Search	41	...	...	...	...
46½	11½	Petrox	46½	+½	...	...	...
162	99	Pict Pet	162	...	...	...	...
29½	18	Premier	24½	+½	...	...	9.1
168	50	Presidio	158	...	...	4.2	...
410	200	Ranger	385	+7	...	4.6	...
7700	5150	Royal Dutch Fl	6084½	-79½	...	4.4	∞
4500	3600	Schlumberger	3819½	+9½	...	2.1	...
67	47	Seafield	55	...	...	...	...
749	515	Shell	702	+1	...	4.4	∞
203	135	Sunrise Eng Sv	138	...	...	...	...
41	15	Triton Europe	33	...	...	...	...
19	6	Villiers Grp	17	...	...	...	...
228½	135	Woodside	194½	+1	...	1.9	...

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
184	120	AG Holdings	172	...	...	3.8	15.6
444	249	API	428	...	...	2.4	26.9
300	144	Arjo Wiggins	298	+4	...	2.3	46.5
718	408	Abbott Mead	718	+3	9.5	1.7	37.7
40	13	Aegis Gp	36½	...	...	...	...
212	118	Aspen Comms▲	198	-1	4.9	3.1	13.0
26	7	BBB Design▲	24	...	...	...	...
472	223	Bemrose	471	...	...	3.1	21.7
30½	7	Bickdale	11	+½	...	...	...
183	118	Bunzl	175	+4	4.0	2.9	26.4
430	257	CIA Gp	400	...	4.4	1.4	25.3
230	93	Capital Inds	168	...	...	2.7	16.0
93	44	City of Lon▲	87	...	...	5.5	10.0
439	160	Cropper (James)	432	...	3.2	0.9	41.7
114	51	Delyn Group	112	...	1.6	1.9	15.1
137	94	Dolphin Pack	127	...	4.5	4.4	31.3
87	62	Dudley Jenkins▲	81 †	...	...	4.0	17.7
16½	10½	Elswick	13½	+½	...	2.7	15.4
93	41	Fairway Group▲	91	...	...	4.7	18.1
430	271	Ferguson Intl	417	...	...	3.7	18.9
145	92	Ferry Pick	145	...	...	4.8	39.1
227	74	Filofax▲	207½	-1½	...	0.9	26.5
20	8	Fitch	10	...	...	...	...
154	69	Gibbon Lyons▲	146	...	5.2	4.5	16.5
285	205	Gold Greenless	239 †	...	8.4	4.4	21.6
41	17	Goodhead	30	...	...	0.2	∞
88	15	Hunterprint	16	...	...	...	...
185	133	Intereurope	135	...	...	7.3	9.8
250	191	Jarvis Porter	285	...	...	2.1	26.6
33½	15½	Lopex	30	...	...	...	...
38½	26	MMI	32	...	...	...	...
431	175	More O'Ferrall	422	...	13.2	3.9	30.5
146	48	NMC Group	125	-2	2.7	2.8	19.3
300	66	Osborne & Little	295	...	...	2.2	32.4
60	6½	Osprey Comms	49	...	...	0.2	...
582	455	Portals	578	-1	...	3.2	19.9
3½	0½	Premier Hlth	2½	...	...	...	...
339	199	Quarto	336	...	...	3.1	20.7
405	220	St Ives Gp	395	...	...	1.7	26.1
186	133	Saatchi	140	-3	...	...	...
545½	292	Sappi	545½	+18	...	6.0	10.3
30½	8½	Serif	29	+½	...	...	...
56	14	Shandwick	56	+½	...	...	...
527	294	Smith David	507 †	+8	...	2.5	34.0
361	206	Smurfit (Jeff)	324	...	...	1.6	7.8
119	45	Somic	114	...	2.5	2.7	40.7
254	183	Star-Plus	249	...	8.8	4.5	21.8
33	16½	Taylor Nelson	32½	...	0.3	1.3	27.3
141	38	VTR▲	140	...	...	3.3	21.1
129	40	WPP	122	-2	...	1.0	4.6
264	62	Wace	235	+3	...	0.5	...
300	203	Waddington (J)	254	+1	...	4.0	19.0
490	220	Watmough	490	...	...	1.5	38.4
7	3	Westport▲	4½	...	...	...	...
44	12	Whitney Mck▲	35	...	...	...	...
103	55	Wyndeham	102 †	...	...	1.8	21.9

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
130	41	Allied Lon	119	...	...	3.7	30.8
48	35	Arcadian	43	...	...	...	...
16½	4½	Ascot Hldgs	8½	...	...	...	...
144	52	Asda	128	...	...	2.1	13.5
191	88	Avonside	165	-3	4.1	3.1	23.1
2637½	2062½	BCE▲	2418½	+28½	...	...	...
765	396	Bilton	735	...	18.9	3.2	26.8
107	17	Bourne End	101	...	...	1.2	...
276	150	Bradford	252	-6	5.9	2.9	25.5
23	5	Bredero	21½	...	...	...	...
474	166½	Br Land	434	+1	...	2.1	39.5
276	140½	Brixton	235	+1	...	4.5	18.6
118	39½	Burford	104 ‡	-1	...	1.7	33.5
218	99	Cap & Regnl▲	205	...	...	1.0	∞
285	120	Cardiff Prop	285 †	...	...	1.1	63.7
185	172	Chelsfield	177	...	...	1.7	...
678	196	Chesterfield	663	...	11.5	2.2	47.4
84	12	City Site Ests	81	...	...	...	...
35	12	Clarke Nickolls	24	-1	...	...	...
548	285	Compco	285	...	12.9	6.0	61.8
56	29½	Conrad Rtblt Gp	52 †	+3	...	...	...
1755	818	Daejan	1660 †	...	...	2.0	20.5
65	5	Dares Estates	17½	...	...	...	...
156	53	Debenham Twsn	148	...	...	2.8	28.1
17	4	De Morgan	15	...	...	...	...
180	76	Dencora	187	...	3.0	2.0	...
723	263	Derwent Hldgs	705	-13	8.7	1.6	...
48	10	Development Sec	39½	...	...	...	...
65	24	Dwyer	62	-1	...	...	...
460	170	Estates Agency	460	+10	...	2.1	54.7
47	7½	Estates Gen	35	...	...	...	...
132	66	Evans Of Leeds	129	...	...	2.3	22.8
37	11	Five Oaks	35	...	...	...	...
78	30	Fletcher King	78	...	1.0	1.6	51.7
536	276½	Frogmore	511	...	...	3.9	24.6
325	97	Grainger	320	-1	...	2.1	37.2
280	116½	Gr Portland	239	+4	...	4.2	22.9
23½	3½	Greycoat	20	...	...	...	...
269	101	HK Land	212½	+3½	...	3.0	28.0
94	35	Hambro Cntyw	79	+2	0.7	1.2	∞
438	233	Hammerson	421	+1	10.0	3.0	42.6
378	127	Helical Bar	373	...	...	1.6	13.4
40½	19	Hemingway	37½	-½	...	...	...
132	56	Herring Baker	71	...	3.7	6.6	17.8
315	133	Jermyn	230	...	...	...	...
802	435	Land Sec	713	+5	23.1	4.1	21.3
122	73	Lon Merch Sec	113	...	4.0	4.4	17.6
22½	8½	Lon & Metro	13	...	...	...	...
565	315½	MEPC	503	+4	...	5.0	28.9
13½	5	McInerney A	12½	...	...	...	...
190	90	McKay Secs	175 †	...	3.5	2.5	24.0
8½	3½	Marktheath	6 #	...	...	...	...
81	12	Merivale Mre	75	...	...	...	...
55	29	Moorfield Est	47	...	...	...	...
1368½	775	Mountview	1281½	...	22.0	2.1	13.4
196	112	Mucklow (A&J)	179	...	...	4.3	27.9
70	30	Oliver Prop	58	...	...	...	...
10½	1½	ORB	2	...	...	...	...
191	88	PSIT	180 †	...	4.3	3.0	35.7
390	138	Peel	369 †	...	4.3	1.5	...
16	4½	Power Corp	8	...	...	...	...
50	22	Property Trust	41	...	...	...	11.7
63	33	Raglan	53	...	...	...	...
40	11	Regalian	35½	...	...	...	...
165	110	Rowlinson Secs	160	+10	1.5	1.2	20.0
84	16	St Modwen Prp	55 †	...	...	2.3	23.0
78	39	Saville Grdn (J)	71 †	+1	...	4.8	35.4
100	39	Savills	83	...	...	2.6	32.9
112	33½	Scot Met	96	...	...	1.9	...
135	30	Shaftesbury	134	...	...	...	...
15½	5	Shield	12½	...	...	...	6.5
290	139½	Slough Estates	279	+2	...	3.6	19.5
103	56	Southend Prop	93	...	...	3.2	...
50	16	Stanhope Prps▲	47	-1	...	...	...
244	114	Tops Ests	242 †	...	2.1	1.1	...
163	79	Town Centre	155	-1	...	2.7	27.7
107	43	Trafford Park	103	...	...	3.4	23.7
58	17	UK Land	41	...	...	...	...
12	4	Union Square	9	...	...	...	...
317	180	Warner	288 †	-1	...	4.8	25.6
249	168	Warnford	248 †	...	7.5	3.8	18.2
8	2	Waterglade	2½	-½	...	...	...
104	34	Wates	98	...	...	...	...
105	40	Wood John Do	101	...	...	0.9	...

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
34	11	Automagic▲	33	...	...	...	...
223	84	Headlam	223	...	...	1.7	50.3
500	285	Lambert	400	...	13.2	4.1	9.8
100	44	Pittards	62	...	1.5	3.0	17.7
30	20	Strong & Fisher	26	...	1.0	4.8	7.2
250	89	Stylo	245	...	...	1.5	...
67	53	UK Safety	66	...	...	4.9	2.2

TEXTILES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
617	408	Allied Text	580 ‡	-10	...	2.8	20.1
71	54	Beckman (A)	65	...	...	6.9	13.0
42	21	Bolton Gp	42	+10	...	...	...
226	141	Br Mohair	211	...	8.5	5.0	10.8
68	15	Chamwell▲	56	...	...	...	...
364	238	Claremont Ga	353	...	7.5	2.7	22.0
601	449	Courtauld Text	544	+6	13.9	3.2	14.9
53½	20	Cupid▲	22	...	...	...	...
248½	124	Dawson	158	+3	...	6.0	12.0
47	22	Drummond	34	+1	...	...	...
89	65	Faupel▲	78	...	4.9	7.9	12.1
34	15	Foster (John)	28	...	...	...	...
168	80	Gaskell	168	...	4.2	3.2	...
249	156	Hicking Pntcst	237	...	...	2.2	16.8
90	45	Jerome (S)	70	+10	...	0.4	...
485	249	Lamont	470	-4	12.0	3.2	31.1
343½	235½	Leeds	336	...	...	2.1	17.7
122	73	Lyles (S)	93	...	...	4.4	...
215	89	Magellan	165	...	1.4	1.1	...
266	77½	Parkland	253	...	...	0.8	...
112	82	Readicut	107½	+½	...	4.0	20.3
70	35	SEET	65	...	...	...	...
147	72	Sirdar	141	...	...	4.7	9.7
72	44	Stirling Gp	62	+1	1.9	3.8	17.2
51	35	Stoddard	43	...	...	4.4	40.0
330	250	Tomkinsons	325	...	...	4.4	27.6
59	30½	West Trust	42 †	...	...	8.0	...
280	126	Yorklyde	266	...	...	2.5	17.4

TOBACCOS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
570	407	BAT	489½	+11	...	4.9	14.6
495	315½	Rothmans	445	+17	...	3.5	14.0

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
627	349	Assoc Br Ports	569	-1	...	2.1	∞
1083	707	BAA	1002	...	...	2.1	24.9
128	106	Badgerline	120	...	...	4.3	14.2
490½	249	Br Airways	434½	-5½	...	3.1	18.2
113	56	Clarkson (H)	97	...	1.7	2.3	...
665	332	Eurotunnel Uts	555	+13	...	...	...
87	44	Fisher (James)	85	...	0.5	0.7	22.8
293	147	IoM Steam	287	...	...	3.7	15.0
55	34	Jacobs (JI)	49	...	0.5	1.3	...
111	41	Lon O'Seas Frs	108	...	...	1.2	19.8
534	264	Mersey Docks	513 †	+2	9.0	2.2	∞
282	181	Natl Express	275	...	...	3.2	28.4
281	218	NFC	255 †	-2	...	3.4	39.2
348	244	Ocean Group	311	+1	...	5.8	...
91	40	Ocean Wilson	83	...	4.0	6.0	15.0
728	504	P & O Dfd	685	-5	...	5.6	37.2
194	127	P & O 5 1/2%	156	...	...	4.4	...
705	448	Powell Duffryn	668	...	...	4.2	21.2
241	117	Seacon▲	228 †	...	...	3.1	21.7
206	112	Stagecoach	194	...	...	2.4	23.6
121	31½	TNT	105	+1	...	...	...
915	624	Tibbet & Britn	870	...	12.6	1.8	33.4
382	37	Tiphook	52	+2	...	...	...
327	222	TDG	311	...	...	3.8	10.3
132	98	Ugland	129	...	...	...	...

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
610	455	Anglian Water	511 †	...	...	5.3	9.1
365	244	Mid Kent Hldgs	364	...	...	3.7	13.4
761	547	Northumbrian	643 †	+8	...	4.5	7.5
611	431½	North West	527 †	...	...	5.2	8.7
645	439	Severn Trent	556 †	+2	...	4.9	8.1
685	454	Sthrn Water	569 †	+5	...	4.6	8.3
1605	1225	Sth Staffs	1570	-5	48.5	3.9	11.2
675	465	South West	587 †	+3	...	5.2	9.5
611	454	Thames Water	532	...	...	5.1	9.3
744	506	Welsh Water	665 †	...	...	4.6	6.6
759½	536	Wessex Water	685 †	-1	...	4.4	10.1
630	473½	Yorkshire W	553 †	-1	...	5.1	8.9

Source: Finstat

▲ USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ‡ Ex all; ‡ Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
109[illegible]	101[illegible]	Exch 13¼% 1994	101[illegible]	-[illegible]	13.34	4.84
105[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 10% 1994	101[illegible]	...	9.87	4.90
110[illegible]	103[illegible]	Exch 12½% 1994	103[illegible]	...	12.07	4.82
105[illegible]	102[illegible]	Treas 9% 1994	102[illegible]	...	8.75	4.93
111[illegible]	106¼	Treas 12% 1995	106¼	...	11.31	4.89
98	94	Gas 3% 1990-95	97½	...	3.07	4.99
109¼	106[illegible]	Exch 10¼% 1995	106[illegible]	...	9.60	5.16
116½	111[illegible]	Treas 12¾% 1995	111[illegible]	...	11.40	5.31
120½	114[illegible]	Treas 14% 1996	114[illegible]	...	12.18	5.48
125½	119[illegible]	Treas 15¼% 1996	119[illegible]	...	12.79	5.68
120[illegible]	115½	Exch 13¼% 1996	115½	...	11.48	5.69
112½	108½	Conv 10% 1996	110	+½	9.09	5.89
122½	118½	Treas 13¼% 1997	118[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.18	6.09
114[illegible]	110[illegible]	Exch 10½% 1997	111½	-½	9.40	6.08
110½	105½	Treas 8¾% 1997	107½	+½	8.12	6.18
132[illegible]	127[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	127[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.75	6.34
114[illegible]	109[illegible]	Exch 9¾% 1998	111½	+[illegible]	8.75	6.37
108[illegible]	99[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 1998	103[illegible] †	+[illegible]	7.02	6.33
102½	97[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	101[illegible]	...	6.64	5.24
131½	125[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	126[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.07	6.67
140[illegible]	133[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	134[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.49	6.54
126[illegible]	118½	Exch 12% 1998	121[illegible]	+½	9.91	6.69
116[illegible]	108[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	111[illegible]	+½	8.50	6.61

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101[illegible]	96[illegible]	Treas 6% 1999	98[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.12	6.44
128½	120[illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	123	-[illegible]	9.96	6.79
121½	112[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	116	+[illegible]	9.05	6.74
121½	112[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	115[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.84	6.81
116½	106	Conv 9% 2000	110[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.11	6.73
136[illegible]	125½	Treas 13% 2000	130½	-½	9.97	6.98
106½	97[illegible]	Treas 7% 2001	100[illegible]	+½	6.96	6.89
122[illegible]	109[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	116	+[illegible]	8.62	7.04
123[illegible]	108½	Treas 9¾% 2002	116[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.39	7.16
113[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 8% 2003	106[illegible]	+½	7.53	7.28
127[illegible]	109½	Treas 10% 2003	119 †	+[illegible]	8.40	7.19
129[illegible]	116½	Treas 11½% 2001-04	123[illegible] †	+[illegible]	9.33	7.23
86[illegible]	67[illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	78[illegible]	-½	4.43	6.28
105[illegible]	95½	Treas 6¾% 2004	97[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.90	7.02
125[illegible]	108½	Conv 9½% 2004	116½	+[illegible]	8.15	7.22
125[illegible]	105½	Conv 9½% 2005	116[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.13	7.24
143[illegible]	124[illegible]	Treas 12½% 2003-05	134[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.28	7.41
111½	94[illegible]	Treas 8% 2002-06	104½ †	+[illegible]	7.66	7.28
112[illegible]	94[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	104[illegible] †	+[illegible]	7.42	7.19
136[illegible]	118[illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	127½	+[illegible]	9.19	7.39
119[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2007	110[illegible]	+½	7.69	7.22
151[illegible]	131[illegible]	Treas 13½% 2004-08	142½	+1[illegible]	9.48	7.43
124[illegible]	101½	Treas 9% 2008	115½	+[illegible]	7.79	7.24

LONGS (over 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
115[illegible]	92[illegible]	Treas 8% 2009	106½ †	+[illegible]	7.52	7.25
126[illegible]	100½	Conv 9% 2011	116½	+[illegible]	7.70	7.25
127[illegible]	100[illegible]	Treas 9% 2012	117½	+[illegible]	7.67	7.26
94	70½	Treas 5½% 2008-12	83[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.57	7.03
114½	89½	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	104[illegible]	-½	7.39	7.21
117½	93[illegible]	Treas 8% 2013	107½	+[illegible]	7.43	7.24
159½	125[illegible]	Exch 12% 2013-17	146[illegible]	+1[illegible]	8.19	7.45
128½	97[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 2017	116½	+[illegible]	7.49	7.23

UNDATED

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
54[illegible]	38½	War Ln 3½%	47[illegible]	+½	7.33	...
37½	27[illegible]	Treas 2½%	32[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.63	...

INDEX-LINKED

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
137½	131½	Treas IL 2% 1994	137½	...	...	...
204½	194[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 1996	200½ †	+½	1.47	2.47
113[illegible]	105[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	109[illegible]	+½	1.79	2.47
176½	159	Treas IL 2½% 2001	171[illegible]	+½	2.44	2.81
179½	155	Treas IL 2½% 2003	166[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.66	2.97
118½	105½	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	113[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.73	3.02
184[illegible]	159½	Treas IL 2% 2006	176½	+[illegible]	2.85	3.08
169[illegible]	144	Treas IL 2½% 2009	158[illegible]	+½	3.05	3.26
179[illegible]	148[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2011	165½	+½	3.10	3.28
146½	122[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2013	136[illegible]	+½	3.13	3.30
157½	130[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2016	145[illegible]	+½	3.19	3.35
152[illegible]	126[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2020	140[illegible]	+½	3.24	3.38
126½	102½	Treas IL 2½% 2024	118½	+½	3.23	3.35
128[illegible]	105½	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	117[illegible]	+½	3.25	3.38

Fitzgerald to ride Remittance Man

By Julian Muscat

MICK Fitzgerald, the 23-year-old jockey, was given a big vote of confidence by Nicky Henderson yesterday when he was entrusted with the ride on Remittance Man in the Queen Mother Champion Chase on March 16. Fitzgerald replaces the suspended Richard Dunwoody, whose 14-day riding ban, incurred at Nottingham on Tuesday, has forced him out of the Cheltenham festival.

Confirmation of Fitzgerald's place aboard Remittance Man undoubtely marks the high point in his fledgling career. All the more so as the Irish-born rider, who joined Henderson as stable jockey at the start of the season, has yet to ride a winner at the festival. However, Henderson was in no doubt he deserved the opportunity aboard the 9-4 Champion Chase favourite.

"I am happy and the owners are happy; Mick deserves the ride. He would have ridden the horse in the Game Spirit Chase at Newbury last month if the ground had not turned against us," said Henderson, who saddled Glentower to land the concluding Whatcombe Novices' Handicap Hurdle at Newbury yesterday.

That Fitzgerald would take over from Dunwoody was far from certain given the availability of Charlie Swan, the Irish champion jockey booked by Henderson for Thumbs Up in the Arkle Challenge Trophy. However, it was not a case of Swan usurping Fitzgerald's position; the latter rides another Henderson-trained horse, Current Express, in the same race.

In fact, Fitzgerald has a clutch of fancied mounts over the three-day festival, which gets underway on Tuesday week. In addition to Remittance Man and Current Express, he partners Barna Boy (Supreme Novices' Hurdle), Billy Bathgate (Grand Annual Chase) and the unbeaten Raymylette (Sun Alliance Chase) for the Henderson stable.

Fitzgerald readily nominated Remittance Man as the plum among them. "I am very pleased; I couldn't be happier," he said. "I've schooled him over six fences before, but I'd like to pop him over three more just to get another feel of him." That prospect will doubtless play havoc with Henderson's already taught nerves.

Ironically, it was Dunwoody who stood in for Fitzgerald in a key schooling session at Henderson's Lambourn stables yesterday after the latter broke his nose in a fall at Fontwell on Tuesday. However, he expects to be back in the saddle by Wednesday at the latest.

Talk of Cheltenham dominated events at the Berkshire track yesterday. Of David Elsworth's two Champion Hurdle candidates, Paul Holley will ride Oh So Risky at the expense of Muse, a 12-1 shot. A third Elsworth representative, Absalom's Lady, will book her place if she pleases in her workout at Whitcombe this morning.

One trainer who had her own "Cheltenham" yesterday was Judy Young, who saddled her inaugural winner under Rules when Beach Bum had the better of a duel with Los Buccaneros in the Ardington Novices' Chase over an extended two miles.

Beach Bum takes pride of place in the trainer's Chippenham stables, where he is kept company by two point-to-pointers. An elated Young, now in her second season with a permit, said after the victory: "The Jockey Club were quite rude about renewing my licence last year. Perhaps they will not be so bad about it next time."

King's Curate, a faller at Sandown last month, faded tamely away behind the winner, Tipp Mariner, in the Hampshire Handicap Chase.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



The eventual winner, Tipp Mariner, follows King's Curate over the water jump in the Hampshire Handicap Chase at Newbury

Cariboo Gold to spark Doncaster double for Bailey

NEWBURY
BBC1

12.30: The Champion Hurdle claims of **Majed** should be enhanced here despite a 91-day absence from the racecourse and a warning from trainer Mary Reveley that her progressive six-year-old will need the run. The top weight won first time out this season — impressively from Arcot and Toogood To Be True — and last, so running well after a lengthy break should pose no problem. Peter Niven's decision to ride before heading north to Doncaster is significant.

With so many of the runners needing to be held up, the lack of pace could lead to a falsely run race, which would suit Highland Spirit. Dancing Paddy needs softer ground while Nahar has not run since disappointing in The Ladbroke hurdle at Leopardstown.

1.00: Shujan steps up in distance and class. His front-running tactics should ensure a sound pace and set the race up for **Flakey Dove**, who is a clear form choice. Richard Price's game mare finished a fine fourth behind Large Action in the Tote Gold Trophy here over a shorter than ideal trip and this return to her best distance should be rewarded with a deserved victory.

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

1.30: Guiburn's Nephew, from the in-form Philip Hobbs yard, loves Newbury, goes well after a break and has twice beaten Mr Entertainer here this season. However, another West Country trainer, Ron Hodges, can take this with **Smartie Express**, who shows his best form in the spring. He ran better than his finishing position indicated behind Garrison Savannah last time, and the drying ground will benefit this sound jumper.

DONCASTER
C4

3.00: Attadale has show nothing this season after winning six consecutive races last term. Mizyan had every chance of beating Brave Buccaneer when falling at the last here three weeks ago, but too often flatters only to deceive. **Cariboo Gold** has taken time to find his form but ran a race full of promise at Sandown two weeks ago when staying on behind Miss Purbeck. The combination of drying ground and Norman Williamson in the saddle can see him go one better.

3.35: Kim Bailey can record a quick double with **Shraden Leader**, who was given a less than inspired ride by Anthony Tory last time. Williamson takes over and, provided this giant of a chaser is not inconvenienced by faster ground, he can regain the winning habit. No More Trix can be fancied but has yet to prove his is so effective on flat, galloping tracks. Mr Boston may prove a bigger threat now that he is stepped up in distance.

4.05: Political Tower moves up in class but appears leniently handicapped after three chasing victories this season. The bold-jumping Trimlough is a danger now that he is racing on a left-handed course again but, along with Maudlins Cross, is better over two miles. **4.40:** If Majed wins at Newbury it will be a strong pointer to the chances of Arcot on his favoured good ground. Taroudant is not badly treated despite top weight but the improving **Strath Royal** is marginally preferred.

NEWBURY

THUNDERER

12.30 Nahar
1.00 Flakey Dove
1.30 Guiburn's Nephew
2.00 DARK DEN (nap)
2.30 One More Run
3.05 All For Luck
3.35 Miss Purbeck

GOING: GOOD SIS

12.30 EASTLEIGH HANDICAP HURDLE (BBC1)
(£5,952: 2m 110yds) (8 runners)

101 2212-1 MAJED 81 (D,G,S) (Laurel Leisure) Limited) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-10 P Niven 93
102 F01-51 DANCING PADDY 35 (D,S) (Byrchance Racing) K Cunningham-Brown 6-11-2 D O'Sullivan
103 122120 NAHAR 56 (CD,G) (R Cross) S Dow 9-10-10 A Dicken 98
104 112-31 HIGHLAND SPIRIT 28 (D,F,G,S) (T Richmond) M Pipe 6-10-2 R Dunwoody 96
105 4216- CADENCY 488 (CD,G) (J Bull) M Tompkins 6-10-0 D Murphy 90
106 421002 CHILD OF THE MIST 15 (D,BF,G,S) (J Whyte) John Whyte 8-10-0 J Kavanagh 94
107 06/035 ELEMENTARY 16 (D,G,S) (P Green) N Walker 11-10-0 R Marley 97
108 3110/ DARK DESIRE 1451 (CD,G,S) (J Jones) C Brooks 8-10-0 J Osborne –

Long handicap: Cadency 9-12, Child Of The Mist 9-12, Elementary 9-11, Dark Desire 9-3

BETTING: 9-4 Majed, 7-2 Highland Spirit, 4-1 Dancing Paddy, 5-1 Nahar, 10-1 Cadency, 12-1 Child of The Mist, 16-1 Elementary, 25-1 Dark Desire

1993: ROSGILL 7-11-0 D J Murphy (9-1) M Tompkins 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

MAJED beat Arcot ¾l in a 12-runner handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good to firm). DANCING PADDY beat Northern Saddler 7l in a 9-runner handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, soft) with ELEMENTARY (7lb better off) ½l 3rd. Last April. DANCING PADDY beat MAJED (4lb worse off) ¾l in a 14-runner handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, heavy). NAHAR, tailed off in the Ladbroke Handicap Hurdle behind Atone at Leopardstown last time, put up best effort this season when beating Change The Act ¾l in an 8-runner handicap hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, good) in November. HIGHLAND SPIRIT beat Miami Splash neck in a 4-runner handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 110yd, soft). CADENCY beat King William ¾l in a 5-runner handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good) in October 1992. CHILD OF THE MIST beat Kilcash 2l in a 9-runner handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m, good) in December. DARK DESIRE completed double in March 1990, beat Ivors Guest 1½l in a 14-runner novice hurdle over course and distance (good)
Selection: DANCING PADDY (nap)

1.00 BERKSHIRE HURDLE (Grade II) (BBC1)
(£9,380: 2m 5f) (5 runners)

201 112 SHUJAN 16 (BF,G,S) (E Parker) R Akehurst 5-11-9 G McCourt 74
202 342113 FLAKEY DOVE 21 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) (J Price) R Price 8-11-7 R Dunwoody
203 -4221F GLAISDALE 49 (CD,S) (Ocsala Limited) M Tompkins 5-11-5 D Murphy 73
204 0-0035 IVOR'S FLUTTER 63 (B) (W Perry) D Elsworth 5-11-5 P Holley 64
205 5P5336 KETTI 14 (D,F,G,S) (Berkshire Components Ltd) D Williams 9-11-0 Miss S Higgins –

BETTING: 11-10 Flakey Dove, 2-1 Shujan, 7-2 Glaisdale, 20-1 Ivor's Flutter, 25-1 Ketti.

1993: LIFT AND LOAD 6-11-12 D J Murphy (9-2) R Hannon 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

SHUJAN completed double on penultimate start, beat Conrouge 8l in a 13-runner novice hurdle at Kempton (2m, good). FLAKEY DOVE 4l and a short-head 3rd of 21 to Large Action in grade III Tote Gold Trophy Handicap Hurdle here (2m 110yd, soft). Previously completed double when beating Sweet Duke 6l in 7-runner grade I Cleeve Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f 110yd, soft). GLAISDALE beat Bell Staffboy ½l in a 7-runner conditions hurdle over course and distance (heavy) on penultimate start. IVOR'S FLUTTER 2l 3rd of 11 to Book of Music in a novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good). KETTI, 14l 3rd of 5 to Lift And Load in this race last year (firm), finished 43l 6th of 11 in a novice chase at Windsor (2m 5f, soft) last month.
Selection: FLAKEY DOVE

1.30 NORTH SYDMONTON HANDICAP CHASE (BBC1)
(£5,640: 2m 4f) (6 runners)

301 /223P- MINNEHOMA 399 (F,G,S) (F Starr) M Pipe 11-12-0 R Dunwoody 90
302 2642-4 FOREST SUN 136 (D,F,G,S) (M Jackson Bloodstock Ltd) G Balding 9-10-10 G Bradley 98
303 -1U23F GUIBURN'S NEPHEW 42 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs R Steed) P Hobbs 12-10-8 C Maude
304 22P124 SMARTIE EXPRESS 23 (CD,F,G,S) (S Norman) R Hodges 12-10-2 B Powell 91
305 F3-544 MR ENTERTAINER 82 (CD,F,G,S) (M Boddington) N Gaselee 11-10-0 C Llewellyn 97
306 -12123 CHANGE THE ACT 67 (CD,F,G,S) (C Heath) O Sherwood 9-10-0 J Osborne 81

Long handicap: Change The Act 9-8.

BETTING: 3-1 Guiburn's Nephew, 100-30 Smartie Express, 4-1 Change The Act, 9-2 Mr Entertainer, 5-1 Minnehoma, 8-1 Forest Sun.

1993: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

MINNEHOMA 2½l 3rd of 5 to Captain Dibble in grade II SGB Handicap Chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, soft) last December. FOREST SUN best effort over fences, 12l 2nd of 5 to Cab On Target in grade II Mumm Mildmay Novice Chase at Liverpool (3m 1f, firm) in April. GUIBURN'S NEPHEW 4l 2nd of 8 to Egypt Mill Prince in a handicap chase over course and distance (good) in November with MR ENTERTAINER (6lb better off) 14l 4th. SMARTIE EXPRESS 10l 2nd of 8 to Richville in a handicap chase on penultimate start at Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). CHANGE THE ACT, useful handicap hurdler, tailed off 3rd of 4 to Dr Rocket in a handicap chase at Towcester (2m 110yd, heavy) on latest run over fences.
Selection: GUIBURN'S NEPHEW

2.00 HIGHCLERE NOVICES HURDLE
(4-Y-O: £3,132: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)

401 61 CALIANDAK 21 (CD,S) (G Leatham) N Tinkler 11-8 G McCourt 82
402 1 DARK DEN 14 (D,S) (G Ohrstrom) Mrs J Cecil 11-4 T Kent
403 211 PREROGATIVE 28 (V,D,S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 11-4 R Dunwoody 98
404 HORSERADISH 506F (Miss L Peate) R Rowe 11-0 R Guest –
405 251 MARIUS 17 (S) (Mrs L Simpson) J Gifford 11-0 D Murphy 92
406 53P SHAMSHADAL 18 (J Long) J Jenkins 11-0 S Smith Eccles 81
407 2U4 SUPREME MASTER 43 (BF) (H Hopgood) R Hannon 11-0 G Bradley 98
408 00 CLEAR LOOK 14 (C Brasher) Miss H Knight 10-9 J Osborne –
409 LA SPEZIA 137F (D Sloan) M Blanshard 10-9 C Llewellyn –

BETTING: 2-1 Dark Den, 5-2 Prerogative, 5-1 Marius, 6-1 Supreme Master, 8-1 Caliandak, 16-1 Shamshadal, 20-1 Clear Look, 25-1 Horseradish, La Spezia.

1993: ZAMIRAH 4-10-13 P Scudamore (2-1) N Twiston-Davies 6 ran

2.30 WICKHAM NOVICES CHASE (£3,522: 3m) (6 runners)

501 1-F131 TARAMOSS 8 (D,S) (H Parker) J Edwards 7-12-0 J Osborne 90
502 6-2122 BOLLINGER 28 (BF,F,G,S) (R Eliot) J Gifford 8-11-9 D Murphy 96
503 -PUU01 ONE MORE RUN 16 (D,S) (M Jackson Bloodstock Ltd) G Balding 7-11-9 G Bradley
504 0/3 ELMORE 29 (C Waters) M Pipe 7-11-4 R Dunwoody 93
505 32P-PP HILL TRIX 16 (Mrs E Ellis) K Bishop 8-11-4 A Tory 92
506 P33 WILLOW GALE 8 (J Plackett) P Butler 7-10-13 G McCourt 84

BETTING: 13-8 Bollinger, 3-1 One More Run, 4-1 Taramoss, 5-1 Willow Gale, 8-1 Elmore, 50-1 Hill Trix.

1993: MR JAMBOREE 7-11-9 D J Murphy (6-1) J Gifford 4 ran

3.05 JACK O'NEWBURY NOVICES CHASE (£3,496: 2m 4f) (7 runners)

601 /22-51 ALL FOR LUCK 3 (G,S) (B Craig) M Pipe 9-11-4 R Dunwoody 97
602 12-PPSP CARDINAL RED 61 (F,G) (Mrs F Walwyn) B De Haan 7-11-4 J Osborne –
603 2-21P1 CREWS CASTLE 24 (G) (Mrs T McCoubrey) J Jenkins 7-11-4 S Smith Eccles –
604 GOOD OLD CHIPS (Lady Joseph) A Turnell 7-11-4 L Harvey –
605 0-3364 MUNKA 56 (G,S) (E Edwards-Heathcote) P Hobbs 8-11-4 Peter Hobbs 94
606 0/42P2 NICKSLINE 10 (M Pinto) J Gifford 8-11-4 D Murphy 93
607 2023P5 WINGS OF FREEDOM 25 (V,F) (American Publishers Ltd) J Jenkins 6-11-4 G Bradley

BETTING: 9-4 All For Luck, 4-1 Munka, 5-1 Nicksline, Wings of Freedom, 7-1 Crews Castle, 10-1 Good Old Chips, 14-1 Cardinal Red.

1993: ROCKET LAUNCHER 7-11-4 P Holley (4-1) D Elsworth 9 ran

3.35 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,513: 2m 5f) (7 runners)

1 1/40F4 COKENNY BOY 24 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) (S Hemstock) Mrs J Pitman 9-11-10 D Bohan (7) 90
2 353-40 MISTER MAJOR 8 (G) (B Keay) G Balding 6-10-13 R Guest 98
3 511-40 LYNCH LAW 16 (B,F,S) (F Farrant) M Pipe 6-10-11 R Dunwoody 98
4 F-4105 KAYTAK 22 (V,CD,F,G,S) (T Myles & Co Contractors) Ltd) J Jenkins 7-10-8 D Murphy
5 155-22 MYHAMET 22 (G,S) (D O'Connor) P Hobbs 7-10-6 Peter Hobbs 96
6 541/P1 MISS PURBECK 15 (D,S) (M Hill) Mrs J Retter 7-10-4 S Fox (5) 98
7 /11-P0 BALLYSTATE 25 (F,G) (Mrs R Stevens) C James 6-10-3 L Harvey 93

BETTING: 11-4 Miss Purbeck, 3-1 Myhamet, 4-1 Lynch Law, 5-1 Kaytak, 8-1 Cokenny Boy, 12-1 Mister Major, 16-1 Ballystate.

1993: FAR TOO LOUD 6-10-0 M Fitzgerald (100-30) Mrs J Retter 7 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Tompkins	7	18	38.9	R Dunwoody	47	186	25.3
M Pipe	25	93	26.9	J Osborne	36	157	22.9
O Sherwood	24	90	26.7	P Holley	14	62	22.6
R Hannon	4	15	26.7	S Smith Eccles	5	28	17.9
N Tinkler	3	14	21.4	G McCourt	11	71	15.5
D Elsworth	19	97	19.6	C Llewellyn	10	69	14.5

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YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Newbury
Going: good

2.00 (2m 1f ch) 1, Beach Bum (C Maude, 20-1); 2, Los Buccaneros (5-4 fav); 3, Picketstone (12-1). 9 ran. 3l, 25l. Mrs J Young. Tote: £21.00; £2.10, £1.30, £3.90. DF: £14.40. CSF: £43.15.

2.30 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Brave Buccaneer (P Niven, 100-30); 2, Rimouski (9-2); 3, Man For All Season (9-1). Corner Boy 5-2 fav. 8 ran. 1l, ¾l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £3.50; £1.50, £1.60, £1.90. DF: £9.10. CSF: £17.71. Tricast: £110.97.

3.00 (3m ch) 1, Tipp Mariner (J Osborne, 13-2); 2, Mander's Way (9-2); 3, Loch Blue (11-2). King's Curate 11-8 fav. 5 ran. 3½l, 2l. S Sherwood. Tote: £5.10; £1.80, £1.90. DF: £8.10. CSF: £28.77.

3.30 (2m 1f ch) 1, Spree Cross (A Maguire, 9-4); 2, Good For A Laugh (9-4); 3, Young Snugfit (2-1 fav). 5 ran. 15l, 5l. Mrs D Haine. Tote: £3.10; £1.50, £1.90. DF: £3.20. CSF: £7.14.

4.00 (3m ch) 1, Andros Prince (Mr M Felton, 11-8); 2, Swinhoe Croft (5-4 fav); 3, Matsix (11-2). 4 ran. NR: Sheer Jest. Dist, dist. Miss C Gordon. Tote: £2.30. DF: £1.40. CSF: £3.49.

4.30 (2m 5f hdle) 1, Glentower (A Maguire, 5-1); 2, Castle Court (5-1); 3, Coney Road (11-4 jt-fav). Cunninghams Ford 11-4 jt-fav. 9 ran. 7l, 12l. N Henderson. Tote: £6.10; £2.00, £1.90, £1.50. DF: £20.10. Trio: £28.50. CSF: £31.51. Tricast: £78.66.

Jackpot: Not Won (pool of £13,240.36 carried forward to Newbury today).
Placepot: £66.30.

Kelso
Going: soft (heavy in places)

1.20 (2m 6f 110yd ch) 1, Gallateen (N Doughty, 1-3 fav); 2, Equinoctial (7-1); 3, Big Mac (12-1). 8 ran. 5l, 2½l. G Richards. Tote: £1.30; £1.10, £1.80, £2.10. DF: £3.10. CSF: £3.31.

1.50 (2m 110yd) 1, Rusty Reel (R Campbell, 7-4 fav); 2, Callernoy (5-2); 3, Gensenc (2-1). 10 ran. 6l, 1l. I Campbell. Tote: £2.50; £1.10, £1.20, £1.10. DF: £3.40. CSF: £6.30.

2.20 (3m 1f) 1, Davy Blake (Mr J M Dun, 10-11 fav); 2, Damnification (9-2); 3, Green Sheen (6-1). 5 ran. 2l, 12l. T Dalgetty. Tote: £1.60; £1.20, £1.80. DF: £2.70. CSF: £4.95.

2.50 (2m 2f) 1, Morcell (D J Moffatt, 7-1); 2, Five To Seven (7-2); 3, Merchwood (15-2). Aslan 11-8 fav. 13 ran. NR: Shahgram. 12l, 2l. J Johnson. Tote: £9.30; £2.80, £1.70, £2.10. DF: £22.90. Trio: £63.50. CSF: £32.21.

3.20 (3m 4f) 1, Veleda II (Mrs A Farrell, 11-10 fav); 2, Bluff Knoll (5-4); 3, Samsun (25-1). 4 ran. Dist, dist. Mrs S Bramall. Tote: £2.00. DF: £2.20. CSF: £2.81

3.50 (2m 6f 110yd) 1, Clyde Ranger (L Wyer, 1-2 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Greenfield Manor (50-1); 3, Paddy Morrissey (25-1). 8 ran. 15l, ¾l. M Hammond. Tote: £1.40; £1.10, £7.80, £1.50. DF: £64.40. CSF: £20.58

4.20 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Brambleberry (R Guest, 9-4 fav); 2, Aragon Ayr (4-1); 3, It's The Pits (5-2). 9 ran. NR: Dizzy. 7l, 4l. Mrs S Smith. Tote: £3.20; £1.40, £1.90, £1.50. DF: £6.90. Trio: £5.40. CSF: £12.13. Tricast: £22.77.

Placepot: £12.30.

Lingfield Park
Going: heavy (home straight soft)

2.15 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Ginger Tristan (Peter Hobbs, 11-4); 2, Nickup (11-4); 3, Switch (7-4 fav). 6 ran. 5l, 2l. D Grissell. Tote: £4.50; £1.80, £1.90. DF: £6.20. CSF: £9.38.

2.45 (2m 110yd) 1, Thermal Warrior (T Grantham, 10-11 fav); 2, Cawarra Boy (100-30); 3, Young Baldric (12-1). 5 ran. 10l, 5l. J Old. Tote: £1.20; £1.20, £1.70. DF: £3.00. CSF: £3.97.

3.15 (2m ch) 1, Mister Oddy (T Jenks, 5-2); 2, Rafiki (5-1); 3, Peaceman (3.. 5 ran. 8l, 1½l. J King. Tote: £3.20; £2.30, £2.80. DF: £9.70. CSF: £12.60.

3.45 (2m 110yd hdle)†02 Fontanays (E Husband, 7-2); 2, Funambulien (2-1 jt-fav); 3, Northern Saddler (2-1 jt-fav). 5 ran. 2½l, 7l. Mrs M McCourt. Tote: £5.10; £2.00, £1.10. DF: £4.60. CSF: £10.04.

4.15 (3m ch) 1, Sheer Ability (R Dunwoody, 4-7 fav); 2, City Kid (11-4); 3, Fire At Will (14-1). 4 ran. 8l, 15l. C Mann. Tote: £1.30. DF: £1.60. CSF: £2.54.

4.45 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Collier Bay (T Grantham (11-8); 2, General Mouktar (8-11 fav); 3, Vismotion (10-1). 4 ran. 20l, dist. J Old. Tote: £2.60. DF: £1.20. CSF: £2.69.

Placepot: £42.10.

Southwell
Going: standard

2.10 (1m 4f) 1, Guards Brigade (L Dettori, 4-9 fav); 2, Barti-Ddu (11-4); 3, Greek Night Out (16-1). 8 ran. 1l, 7l. Lord Huntingdon. Tote: £1.20; £1.10, £1.10, £1.60. DF: £1.80. CSF: £2.35.

2.40 (1m 6f) 1, Qualitair Aviator (G Bardwell, 7-1); 2, Marathia (9-2 jt-fav); 3, Flyaway (9-1). Tempering 9-2 jt-fav. 14 ran. Hd, 6l. J Bottomley. Tote: £8.70; £3.50, £1.40, £3.40. DF: £39.00. Trio: £94.00. CSF: £38.63.

3.10 (1m 4f) 1, Batabanoo (K Darley, 4-1); 2, Scarlet Tunic (11-2); 3, Top Shiel (13-8 fav). 11 ran. ¾l, 1½l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £5.40; £3.20, £2.40, £1.30. DF: £18.80. Trio: £15.00. CSF: £28.19. Tricast: £48.30.

3.40 (1m) 1, Wolf Power (K Darley, 8-1); 2, Able Choice (6-1 jt-fav); 3, Allinson's Mate (13-2). Get At The Gate 6-1 jt-fav. 15 ran. 1½l, 6l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £14.00; £3.20, £2.50, £4.20. DF: £22.70. Trio: £165.60. CSF: £57.40. Tricast: £315.26.

4.10 (1m) 1, Viva Future (D Harrison, 5-1); 2, Miss Freebie (4-1); 3, Queens Stroller (5-4 fav). 7 ran. 2l, nk. G Pritchard-Gordon. Tote: £7.10; £2.50, £2.60. DF: £10.20. CSF: £23.28.

4.40 (6f) 1, Mustn't Grumble (J Tate, 9-1); 2, Pretonic (3-1 fav); 3, Farmer Jock (14-1). 15 ran. NR: Beckyhannah. 1½l, 2½l. B Beasley. Tote: £11.80; £3.00, £1.30, £10.50. DF: £42.90. Trio: £698.00. CSF: £37.68. Tricast: £373.15.

Placepot: £117.80.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: MAJED
(12.30 Newbury)

Next best: Cariboo Gold
(3.00 Doncaster)

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Doncaster (first race 2.10), Windsor (2.20), Wolverhampton (2.00).
TUESDAY: Leicester (2.00), Sedgefield (2.20), Lingfield Park (2.10).
WEDNESDAY: Bangor (2.10), Catterick Bridge (2.00), Folkestone (1.50).
THURSDAY: Carlisle (2.10), Towcester (2.20), Wincanton (2.00).
FRIDAY: Ayr (2.20), Market Rasen (2.10), Sandown Park (2.00).
SATURDAY: Ayr (1.40), Chepstow (1.00), Sandown Park (1.55), Southwell (2.10).

Flat meetings in bold

DONCASTER

THUNDERER

1.55 Act Of Parliament
2.25 Newlands-General
3.00 Cariboo Gold
3.35 Musthaveaswig
4.05 Sir Peter Lely
4.40 Red Indian
5.10 Go Ballistic

Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.55 NADJATI

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT PATCHES ON HURDLE COURSE) SIS

1.55 BOUGHTON AND DISTRICT SOCIAL CLUB NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,548: 2m 4f) (15 runners)

1 5-12 ACT OF PARLIAMENT 36 (D,BF,F) (J Perrett) A Bailey 6-11-10 N Williamson 90
2 0F CLOSE OF PLAY 45 (Mrs R Humphries) J Chugg 5-11-4 D Fortt (5) –
3 0- HEDDON HAUGH 512 (I Cheesbrough) P Cheesbrough 6-11-4 K Johnson –
4 21-0F00 HERBALIST 32 (G) (C Hill) J Hetherton 5-11-4 A Larnach (3) –
5 5 JAMES IS SPECIAL 16 (J Thomas) H Collingridge 6-11-4 V Smith 79
6 4 LYPHANTASTIC 77 (Jarvis-Lane Partners) C Mann 5-11-4 M Dwyer 84
7 33-F34 NADJATI 8 (T Whatley) D Gandolfo 5-11-4 M Richards
8 0-0 SCEPTICAL 94 (Pell-mell Partners) J Glover 6-11-4 T Reed –
9 54 STOP THE WALLER 25 (R Burgan) M Barnes 5-11-4 A Dobbin 71
10 2243-50 TUSKY 21 (Ms S Walter) G Moore 6-11-4 W Bentley (3) 84
11 231 OUTSET 57 (D,G) (M Kilner) M Hammond 4-11-1 Mr C Bonner (7) 83
12 000 LEGATA 24 (C Whiteley) J Dooler 5-10-13 P Midgley (5) –
13 0 DOC SPOT 52 (Mrs G S Rees) Capt J Wilson 4-10-9 D Byrne –
14 0445 PRIMO FIGLIO 16 (Townville C C Racing Club) Miss L Siddall 4-10-9 P Williams (5) 83
15 0 TROY BOY 21 (J Gordon) G Moore 4-10-9 J Callaghan –

BETTING: 3-1 Nadjati, 7-2 Act Of Parliament, 5-1 Lyphantastic, Outset, 7-1 James Is Special, 10-1 others.

1993: JACKSON FLINT 5-11-4 L Wyer (6-4 fav) H Thomson Jones 8 ran

2.25 MIDDAY INTERIORS NOVICES CHASE
(£3,134: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)

1 5CF212 SHREWD JOHN 117 (BF,G) (R Woodhouse) R Woodhouse 8-11-8 R Garritty 87
2 BULAMONTEE (Mrs H Clarke) K Bailey 8-11-2 N Williamson –
3 1205-3F FAVOURED VICTOR 21 (B,S) (A Kerr) K Morgan 7-11-2 A S Smith –
4 104-225 FULL O'PRAISE 30 (F,G) (Lord Zetland) P Calver 7-11-2 T Reed 90
5 11/2U-32 NEWLANDS-GENERAL 23 (BF,G,S) (W Hancock) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-11-2 M Dwyer
6 2P030-6 SAFFAAH 102F (G) (Mrs H Levy) W Muir 7-11-2 M Richards –
7 5P0-UU6 THE COUNTRY TRADER 133 (Edinburgh Woollen Mill) G Richards 8-11-2 N Doughty –
8 0 TRUE SHADE 15 (F,G) (G Vergette) G Vergette 8-11-2 B Dalton –
9 4154P APRIL CITY 19F (S) (T Gourley) C Smith 5-10-3 M Ranger –

BETTING: 2-1 Newlands-General, 9-2 Shrewd John, 5-1 Saffaah, 11-2 Favoured Victor, 6-1 others.

1993: COPPER MINE 7-11-8 J Osborne (4-9 fav) O Sherwood 3 ran

3.00 LIGHT INFANTRY HANDICAP HURDLE (C4)
(£3,043: 3m 110yd) (11 runners)

1 1111-P0 ATTADALE 32 (F,G,S) (C McGhie) L Lungo 6-11-10 T Reed 85
2 02322F MIZYAN 21 (G) (E Carter) J Banks 6-11-9 S Keightley 93
3 121-P02 CARIBOO GOLD 15 (G,S) (Sheikh Marwan Al Maktoum) K Bailey 5-11-9 N Williamson
4 04231-0 ACROW LINE 12F (D,S) (Rhys Thomas Williams) D Burchell 9-11-7 D J Burchell 87
5 2U4-200 POLISHING 32 (F,G,S) (J Gordon) M Hammond 7-11-5 S Lyons (5) 90
6 43-0065 SPROWSTON BOY 28 (CD,F,G,S) (G Whiting) M Chapman 11-11-3 W Worthington 89
7 022113 WELSH LUSTRE 22 (S) (Mrs L Lovell) D Nicholson 5-10-13 W Marston 88
8 11/FP-30 NORTHUMBRIAN KING 119 (F,G) (Mrs K Walton) Mrs K Walton 8-10-10 J Callaghan 87
9 501313 ELEGANT KING 16 (G,S) (L Fust) A Jarvis 5-10-10 R Greene 95
10 1162-P4 I'M TOBY 85 (CD,G) (D Armitage) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-10-10 M Dwyer 88
11 P-63441 IF YOU SAY SO 50 (D,G) (S Smith) J Eyre 8-10-0 A Mulholland 88

Long handicap: If You Say So 9-11.

BETTING: 5-2 Cariboo Gold, 11-4 Mizyan, 4-1 Attadale, 5-1 Welsh Lustre, 10-1 I'm Toby, 12-1 Elegant King, If You Say So, 16-1 Northumbrian King, Sprowston Boy, 20-1 Polishing.

1993: PALANQUIN 11-10-8 T Reed (3-1) W Reed 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

MIZYAN ½l 2nd of 4 to Scotoni in a handicap hurdle at Lingfield (AW, 2m 4f). CARIBOO GOLD 6l 2nd of 10 to Miss Purbeck in a conditional jockeys handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 6f, soft). ACROW LINE beat Woodmans Star 2½l in a 6-runner handicap on the Flat at Wolverhampton (AW, 2m). Previously 33l 8th of 25 to Bollin Magdalene in a handicap hurdle at Nottingham (2m 5f 110yd, soft) with ATTADALE (2lb better off) 2l 10th, POLISHING (3lb better off) 2l 13th and CARIBOO GOLD (1lb worse off) 12l 17th. POLISHING 3½l 2nd of 9 to Counsellors in a handicap hurdle at Newcastle (3m, good) in November.
Selection: ACROW LINE

3.35 VELKA PARDUBICKA GRIMTHORPE HANDICAP CHASE (£7,181: 3m 4f) (10 runners) (C4)

1 F1-1112 MR BOSTON 68 (D,BF,F,G,S) (M Oldham) Mrs M Reveley 9-11-10 P Niven 89
2 13-1363 MISTER ED 61 (F,G,S) (Talking Horse Partnership) R Curtis 11-11-4 D Morris 93
3 3-51135 WHAAT FETTLE 52 (D,G,S) (Edinburgh Woollen Mill Ltd) G Richards 9-10-13 M Moloney 90
4 4-2334P MUSTHAVEASWIG 35 (C,S) (P D Fasteners Ltd) D Nicholson 8-10-9 W Marston 93
5 P12/112 SHRADEN LEADER 29 (BF,G,S) (W Everall) K Bailey 9-10-5 N Williamson 97
6 512-254 SHOON WIND 35 (F,G,S) (Frickley Holdings Ltd) M Hammond 11-10-4 L Wyer
7 42F21-3 HE WHO DARES WINS 21 (D,F,G) (I Cheesbrough) P Cheesbrough 11-10-6 K Johnson 88
8 12-014U HIGH PADRE 43 (F,G,S) (J Murdoch) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-10-2 M Dwyer 82
9 113-1F' NO MORE TRIX 21 (BF,G,S) (The Roses Syndicate) T Lee 8-10-0 R Garritty 97
10 0/5400-6 TEAM CHALLENGE 29 (F,G,S) (Mrs E Hitchins) R Lee 12-10-0 R Greene 80

Long handicap: Team Challenge 9-9.

BETTING: 11-4 Shraden Leader, 4-1 Mr Boston, 5-1 Mister Ed, 6-1 High Padre, 13-2 Whaat Fettle, 8-1 Shoon Wind, 10-1 He Who Dares Wins, Musthaveaswig, 12-1 No More Trix, 20-1 Team Challenge

1993: DAMERS CAVALRY 10-11-7 R Greene (5-1) R Lee 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

MR BOSTON 5l 2nd of 5 to General Pershing in a handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 110yd, soft). MISTER ED 18½l 3rd of 9 to Moorcroft Boy in a handicap chase at Cheltenham (4m 1f, soft). Earlier beat SHOON WIND (8lb better off) 1½l in a 5-runner handicap chase at Newcastle (3m 6f, good). WHAAT FETTLE best effort this season, beat Piper O'Drummond neck in a 5-runner handicap chase at Kelso (2m 6f 110yd, good) in November. MUSTHAVEASWIG best effort this season, 9l 3rd of 8 to Light Veneer in a limited handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good) in November. SHRADEN LEADER beat Young Miner 15l in a 12-runner handicap chase at Nottingham (3m 110yd, soft) on penultimate start. HE WHO DARES WINS 4½l 3rd of 6 to Killula Chief in a handicap chase at Ayr (3m 1f, good to soft)
Selection: SHOON WIND

4.05 MITSUBISHI SHOGUN HANDICAP CHASE (£5,800: 2m 3f 110yd) (16 runners) (C4)

1 0P015P ARMAGRET 28 (C,F,G,S) (Mrs R Wilkinson) B Wilkinson 9-12-0 L Wyer 96
2 1-13213 TRIMLOUGH 43 (F,G,S) (R Perkins) P Dalton 9-11-7 W Marston 94
3 2-023PF ICARUS 9 (B,F,G) (D Brown) D Brown 8-11-1 Mr A Rebori 90
4 81F311 SIR PETER LELY 30 (B,F,G,S) (J Doyle Ltd) M Hammond 7-10-13 Mr C Bonner (7) 93
5 /51222- GREEK FLUTTER 398 (G,S) (Jimmy Fitzgerald) Jimmy Fitzgerald 9-10-12 G Tormey (7) 91
6 36-1133 JUST FRANKIE 35 (F,G,S) (Lady Susan Watson) Mrs M Reveley 10-10-10 M Dwyer 93
7 312312 MAUDLINS CROSS 32 (F,G,S) (D Bell) Mrs M Reveley 9-10-8 P Niven 91
8 204114 DRIVING FORCE 66 (D,BF,F,G,S) (B Reid) Mrs M McCourt 8-10-8 T Jenks (3) 96
9 4-31131 CORRARDER 44 (F,G) (Mrs E Smyth-Osbourne) J Old 10-10-4 Mr J Smyth-Osbourne 92
10 52-4334 SNITTON LANE 36 (F,G,S) (H White) W Clay 8-10-3 M Richards 95
11 4211F1 POLITICAL TOWER 44 (S) (G Nixon) M Barnes 7-10-2 A Dobbin
12 5-1FF12 FARDROSS 91 (BF,G) D S Racing) K Bailey 8-10-1 N Williamson 85
13 3/PP001 BISHOPDALE 50 (C,F,G,S) (S Chadwick) S Chadwick 13-10-0 A Merrigan 94
14 44-0421 KIND'A SMART 7 (F,G,S) (B Parker) K Morgan 9-10-0 A S Smith 90
15 433-143 REJOINUS 16 (S) (C Galloway) A Stringer 9-10-0 R Garritty 98
16 21-2F42 BOARDING SCHOOL 89 (F,G,S) (R Green) C Parker 7-10-0 B Storey 85

Long handicap: Rejoinus 9-11, Boarding School 9-8.

BETTING: 7-2 Political Tower, 5-1 Sir Peter Lely, 6-1 Corrarder, 8-1 Maudlins Cross, 10-1 Armagret, Just Frankie, Kind'a Smart, 12-1 Fardross, Greek Flutter, Snitton Lane, Trimlough, 14-1 others.

1993: CASTLE KING 6-10-10 C Grant (4-5 fav) P Cheesbrough 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

ARMAGRET disappointing since beating One For The Pot 2½l in a 5-runner handicap chase at Newcastle (2m 4f, heavy) in December. TRIMLOUGH beat One For The Pot 8l in a 4-runner handicap chase at Uttoxeter (2m, heavy) on penultimate start. SIR PETER LELY beat Deadline 2½l in a 9-runner amateur riders' handicap chase at Edinburgh (2m 4f, good). JUST FRANKIE 12½l 3rd of 4 to Clay County in a handicap chase at Newcastle (2m 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. MAUDLINS CROSS 10l 2nd of 4 to Military Honour in a handicap chase at Sedgefield (2m 1f, good to soft). DRIVING FORCE beat Crooked Counsel 12l in a 6-runner handicap chase at Fakenham (2m 110yd, good) on penultimate start. POLITICAL TOWER beat Zarbano 15l in a 13-runner novice handicap chase at Ayr (2m, soft). FARDROSS 10l 2nd of 11 to Judges Fancy in a novice chase at Towcester (3m 1f, soft). BISHOPDALE beat Laplaite 2l in an 11-runner handicap chase at Edinburgh (2m 4f, good) with KIND'A SMART (2lb better off) 4l 4th.
Selection: POLITICAL TOWER

4.40 DANKA/NEC HANDICAP HURDLE (C4)
(£3,179: 2m 110yd) (14 runners)

1 0-21135 TAROUDANT 91 (G) (G Farndon) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-10 P Niven 92
2 0-24661 BO KNOWS BEST 35 (C,D,F,S) (N Goldman) Mrs J Ramsden 5-11-8 Mr S Swiers 96
3 2-42221 HOME COUNTIES 36 (V,CD,S) (Roxy Cinemas Ltd) D Moffatt 5-11-5 D J Moffatt (3) 95
4 5131-64 PONTYNYSWEN 42 (V,D,G,S) (J Thomas) D Burchell 6-11-4 D J Burchell 92
5 1U6-2F2 ARCOT 91 (D,BF,G,S) (Pell-mell Partners) J Glover 6-11-4 T Reed
6 /1540/1 BOTTLES 15F (D,F,S) (R Taylor) J Banks 7-10-12 S Keightley 96
7 11-1232 STRATH ROYAL 14 (CD,F,G,S) (Lady Anne Bentinck) O Brennan 8-10-11 M Brennan 95
8 1F2-FFP VAIN PRINCE 30 (B,D,F,G,S) (A Findlay) N Tinkler 7-10-8 E Husband (5) –
9 4/12163 RED INDIAN 78 (D,G) (D Marshall) W Haigh 8-10-6 D Byrne 93
10 1-61453 GYMCRAK SOVEREIGN 22 (D,G,S) (Gymcrak Racing) G Holmes 6-10-0 R Marley 96
11 4/33162- GOLDEN GUNNER 442 (D,F,G,S) (M Stevens) Mrs M McCourt 6-10-0 T Jenks (3) 87
12 F2651F RATIFY 15 (D,BF,G,S) (J Fretwell) K Morgan 7-10-0 A S Smith 98
13 13/4525 DUAL IMAGE 21 (D,BF,F,G,S) (Datum Building Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-10-0 F Leahy (7) 98
14 125/P00 MASTER GLEN 31 (D,G) (G Platt) G Oldroyd 6-10-0 S Mason (5) –

Long handicap: Gymcrak Sovereign 9-13, Golden Gunner 9-12, Ratify 9-11, Dual Image 9-5, Master Glen 8-9.

BETTING: 4-1 Arcot, 6-1 Home Counties, 7-1 Bottles, Taroudant, 8-1 Bo Knows Best, 9-1 others.

1993: MONTPELIER LAD 6-12-0 N Doughty (9-4) G Richards 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

TAROUDANT 4½l 5th of 12 to Land Afar in grade III William Hill Handicap Hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good to soft). BO KNOWS BEST beat High Altitude 4l in a 16-runner handicap hurdle here (2m 4f, good to soft) with STRATH ROYAL (7lb better off) 4l 3rd. HOME COUNTIES beat Dizzy 8l in an 8-runner handicap hurdle over course and distance (good to soft) with RATIFY (3lb better off) 8½l 5th. ARCOT ¾l 2nd of 12 to Majed in a handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good). BOTTLES beat Moving Out 1½l in a 4-runner handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m, good to soft). Won on Flat at Southwell (AW, 1m 6f) recently. STRATH ROYAL 7l 2nd of 4 to Highbrook in a handicap hurdle at Nottingham (2m, good to soft). RATIFY beat J P Morgan 1½l in a 7-runner handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start with DUAL IMAGE (2lb better off) 11l 5th.
Selection: ARCOT

5.10 ST NINIAN OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,940: 2m 110yd) (18 runners)

1 14-6 CAPENWRAY 35 (G) (Mrs L Woodward) R Fisher 5-11-10 B Storey –
2 1 GO BALLISTIC 15 (S) (Mrs B Lockhart) D Nicholson 5-11-10 R Massey (7) –
3 3 DISSINGTON DENE 35 (D & W Wyllie) J Norton 5-11-3 P Midgley (5) –
4 0- LOCHNAGRAIN 399 (Lightbody Of Hamilton Ltd) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-3 P Niven –
5 0 MACKABEE 37 (A Kaplan) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-3 N Doughty –
6 0 MASTER HOPE 15 (Dexley Partnership) D Nicholson 5-11-3 Mr R Bevan –
7 0- MR BUSKER 301 (P Gray) S Sherwood 5-11-3 Mr J Durkan –
8 0 OPERA TALENT 14 (Mrs D Osborne) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-3 M Dwyer –
9 0- SPONTANEOUS PRIDE 490 (J S Racing) K Bailey 6-11-3 N Williamson –
10 0 SPY DESSA 35 (Norbri Stud Ltd) T Carr 6-11-3 R Hodge –
11 22 VALERIOS KING 32 (Valerio's Olympia Ltd) S Christian 5-11-3 V Slattery –
12 6 VAN DER GRASS 35 (F Grass) M Barnes 5-11-3 A Dobbin –
13 3 ARDENT LOVE 37 (Mrs J Todd) O Brennan 5-10-12 R Moore (7) –
14 06- SKELTON LASS 373 (R Flegg) J Parkes 5-10-12 C Woodall (7) –
15 54- STORMY PETREL 288 (Mrs A MacEwan) P Walwyn 5-10-12 Mr P MacEwan –
16 5 GREY SMOKE 35 (C Spence) M W Easterby 4-10-9 J Driscoll (7) –
17 0 HIGHLY REPUTABLE 7 (W Gredley) M Pipe 4-10-9 J Lower –
18 HIGH MOOD (E Farquhar) T George 4-10-9 T Jenks (3) –

BETTING: 11-4 Go Ballistic, 6-1 Ardent Love, 8-1 Dissington Dene, 10-1 Capenwray, 12-1 others.

1993: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Mrs J Ramsden	5	8	62.5	P Niven	17	52	32.7
P Cheesbrough	4	9	44.4	N Williamson	4	15	26.7
R Lee	7	16	43.8	L Wyer	8	33	24.2
M Pipe	6	20	30.0	W Marston	3	14	21.4
G Richards	5	19	26.3	N Doughty	3	15	20.0
Mrs M Reveley	13	58	22.4	M Dwyer	7	44	15.9

Scottish champion hunter chaser stakes claim for Newbury final

Davy Blake defies hefty burden

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

DAVY Blake defied a welter weight of 12st 10lb in game fashion to land the fifth qualifier of The Times Rising Stars series at Kelso yesterday.

Norman Dalgetty's locally-trained gelding had won the corresponding race last year, but this was a very different proposition as he was conceding between 17lb and 19lb to four useful rivals.

The past 12 months have made all the difference to Davy Blake, who is not a big horse (just 16 hands), but he has strengthened up a lot and he needed every ounce of that extra muscle to cope with these testing conditions.

The seven-year-old could not have been more impressive. Partnered by his regular rider, Michael Dun, the 11-10 on favourite set out to do it the hard way.

Tricksome, an impressive winner of a point-to-point on his reappearance at Alnwick last month, kept Davy Blake company until a mistake at the fifteenth of the 19 fences relegated him to fourth place. The challenge was immediately taken up by Damnification, winner of his two points this season, and Green Sheen but, after jumping the second-last, Dun kicked on and his resolute mount quickened clear.

If the weight was going to tell it was now. But Davy Blake showed no signs of stopping as he stayed on up the hill to hold the promising Damnification by a comfortable two lengths.

Dalgetty, a retired hotelier from nearby Jedburgh, had celebrated his 71st birthday the previous day, and now has to decide whether to go for the Christies Foxhunters' at Cheltenham a week on Thursday or The Times Rising Stars final at Newbury on March 25.

"Everyone is telling me I must go to Cheltenham, but we'll have to see," said the trainer, adding: "I'll take stock and make a decision on Monday.

"I've been in racing for over 50 years and this is the first time I've trained a horse to win eight races. What A Coup and Nijanna, who won the Heart Of All England, both won seven races."

Dun, a seasoned rider on the northern circuit, will certainly be trying his best to influence Dalgetty to go for the Foxhunters' first. He said: "I'll be annoyed if we don't go to Cheltenham after this. Davy Blake is a fair animal, I've never sat on anything like him before."

PETER KEMP



Davy Blake, ridden by Michael Dun, jumps the last safely on his way to victory in The Times qualifier at Kelso

Kelso result

2.20 TIMES RISING STARS HUNTERS CHASE (Qualifier: £1,900: 3m 1f) 1, DAVY BLAKE (Mr J M Dun, 10-11 fav); 2, Damnification (Mr A Parker, 9-2); 3, Green Sheen (Mr Chris Wilson, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Tricksome (4th), 66 Go Silly (5th). 5 ran. 2l, 12l, 4l, dist. T Dalgetty at Jedburgh. Tote: £1.60; £1.20, £1.80. DF: £2.70. CSF: £4.95.

Dickinson hope to collect at Corbridge

POINT-TO-POINT BY BRIAN BEEL

THE Land Rover qualifier over three miles five furlongs at the Tynedale point-to-point today will be ideal for Monica Dickinson's Man's Best Friend, who is being aimed at the extended four-mile Hunters National at Newcastle later this month.

Successful twice last season at Hexham, Man's Best Friend made his point-to-point debut in the confined at the Badsworth three weeks ago. Under today's rider, Richard Ford, he won easily by 20 lengths. The main threat today is likely to be Jimmy River, another easy winner on his seasonal return here at Corbridge.

In the same sponsor's race today at the Bicester, Jim Tarry's Fine Lace will be difficult to beat. He is a course winner at Mollington and opened his account this term at the Oxford University.

The **Chiddingfold, Leconfield and Cowdray** meeting at Parham usually takes the prize for the most family entertainment off course and this year is likely to be no exception. Seven races are on the card and Tim McCarthy should increase his season's tally of seven with Gold Shot, Roussillon To Be, Namoos and Not Quite White entered. The best bet, however, is the Peter Bull-ridden Right-saidfred in the second division of the maiden.

TODAY'S MEETINGS: Bicester, Mollington 5m north of Banbury, (first race 12.00); Cambridge University, Cottenham, 5m NE of Cambridge (12.30); Chiddingfold, Leconfield and Cowdray, Parham, 3m SE of Pulborough (12.45); Cottesmore, Garthorpe, 5m E of Melton Mowbray (12.30); Duke of Beaufort's, Didmarton, 6m SW of Tetbury (12.30); East Devon, Devon County Showground, 3m E of Exeter (12.30); Pembrokeshire, Lydstep, 3m SW of Tenby (2.00); South Cornwall, Great Trethew, 3m SE of Liskeard (12.00); Tanatside, Eyton-on-Severn, 6m SE of Shrewsbury (12.00); Tynedale, Corbridge, 2m N of town (12.30).

SPORT IN BRIEF

Havant aim to claim final point for title

HAVANT, needing only a draw at home tomorrow against Slough, are poised to regain the Pizza Express National League hockey championship and give a fitting farewell to their Olympic half back, Robert Hill, who announced his retirement earlier this week (Sydney Friskin writes).

Colin Cooper, the Havant captain, reports that all his players are fit. "We must be careful not to lose our heads," he added. The result is equally crucial to Slough, who are fighting to avoid relegation and may have only one more fixture remaining, next week against East Grinstead. "Both matches are difficult but we know exactly what we have to do," Mark Kirkland, the Slough captain, said, recalling that Slough had beaten Havant in both league and cup games last season.If Havant succeed, Hounslow, last year's winners, will finish runners-up even if they lose at home to Southgate.

Guildford and Surbiton are assured of promotion from the second division but tomorrow's matches will decide which club takes the title. Guildford, a point ahead of Surbiton, can expect a tough test at home to Gloucester City, whereas Surbiton appear to have things easier at Harborne.

Haycock wins recall

ROWING: Cambridge announced yesterday that, only a week after the official challenge and crew naming for the Boat Race, they have changed their steersman (Mike Rosewell writes). Russell Slatford, the coxswain originally named, raced against Molesey last Saturday but Martin Haycock, Cambridge's 1993 coxswain, has been reinstated because of "his experience from last year's race and his knowledge of the difficult tidal conditions".

☐ Oxford's Boat Race crew defend their Reading Head title today when they lead off 130 crews over the 2¾-mile course. Oxford are followed away by Imperial College, who beat them in 1992, and a London RC crew, although not the combination that beat them on the Tideway last Saturday. Since that defeat Oxford have completely reshuffled their order and Kingsley Poole, the president, is back in the stroke seat with the Lorgen brothers, of Norway, behind him. Cambridge involvement in the race is limited to their Women's Open and Lightweight Boat Race crews.

Cousins heads team

ICE SKATING: Steven Cousins spearheads the British team named yesterday for the world championships at Makuhari, Japan, from March 22 to 27 (Michael Coleman writes). Charlene von Saher has been given the chance to redeem her image after a flat performance at Lillehammer. Marika Humphreys and Justin Lanning will fill the dance slots abruptly vacated, to the embarrassment of the National Ice Skating Association, by Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean.

TEAM: Men: S Cousins (Deeside). Women: C von Saher (Queens). Pairs: D Mednick and J Briggs (Solihull/Ashfield). Dance: M Humphreys and J Lanning (Slough).

Kankkunen on course

MOTOR RALLYING: Juha Kankkunen, the world champion, raced confidently towards a second victory in the Portuguese rally yesterday, with his Toyota team-mate, Didier Auriol, of France, edging into second place 44 seconds behind him. Auriol, in a Toyota Celica, overtook Massimo Biasion's Ford Escort. Biasion, of Italy, who has won the Portuguese rally three times, lay only 15 seconds behind Auriol at the end of the 33rd of the 36 special stages in the rally. Kankkunen drove a Toyota Celica that has proved more reliable on the dirt tracks and gravel roads of Portugal's hilly interior than the Ford Escorts.

Grubb changes flags

EQUESTRIANISM: Tim Grubb, 39, the British Olympic silver medal winner from 1984, has become an American citizen, which qualifies him to ride for the United States in international events (Muriel Bowen writes). "It makes sense," the rider, who was born in Grantham, said. "My home has been in America for 14 years and my kids are American." He was the leading show jumper in the United States last year. Ronnie Massarella, the manager of the British show jumping team, said: "I'm very sad he has gone over to the stars and stripes."

Dutch spin danger

CRICKET: Holland and Bermuda meet in Nairobi today in a third-place play-off in the ICC Trophy which decides who goes into the World Cup. Clay Smith, capable of a big score, will turn out for Bermuda after his unconditional apology to both umpires for his reaction to being given out leg-before during the semi-final defeat by Kenya. However, the islanders lack of technical know-how against spinners will be exploited by the by the off spin of Flavian Aponso, Steve Lubbers and Leon Bouter. Kenya and the Unired Arab Emirates contest the trophy final tomorrow.

Draw favours Lomas

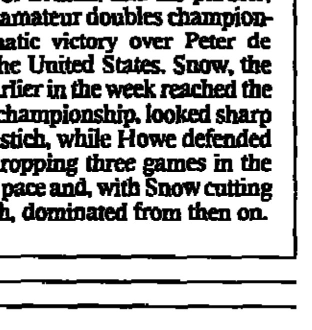


TABLE TENNIS: Having led England to the European league final for the first time last month, Lisa Lomas, right, will be trying to follow it by regaining the English national title from Andrea Holt today and tomorrow at King's Lynn. Lomas has the better draw, having escaped the half including Alison Gordon, the former champion. Chen Xinhua, the top seed, will be attempting to regain the men's singles title.

Snow's doubles victory

REAL TENNIS: Julian Snow, of Britain, and his partner, Ralph Howe, retained their US amateur doubles championship at Boston with an emphatic victory over Peter de Svastich and John Aldney, of the United States. Snow, the world's leading amateur who earlier in the week reached the final of the US amateur rackets championship, looked sharp against the hard-hitting De Svastich, while Howe defended the galleries effectively. After dropping three games in the opening set, they stepped up the pace and, with Snow cutting the ball to an immaculate length, dominated from then on.

THUNDERER

2.20 Malaia. 2.50 Florida Sky. 3.20 Astings. 3.50 Avena. 4.20 River Bounty. 4.50 Albertito.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

2.20 LUDDINGTON NOVICES HURDLE
(4-Y-O: £1,912: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)

1 1- MALAIA 15 (S) J Old 11-0 ... T Grantham
2 PPR BARNIEMEBOY 18F (V) P McEntee 10-12 ... W Elderfield
3 5 DON TOCINO 33 J White 10-12 ... W McFarland
4 FLAMING MIRACLE 187F (B) G Barnett 10-12 ... D Gallagher
5 KEDGE 140F W Clay 10-12 ... Diane Clay
6 0 KING'S GOLD 37 T Jones 10-12 ... C Burnett-Wells (5)
7 625 FOREVER SHINEING 14 S Mellor 10-7 ... M Perrett
8 322 FORMAL AFFAIR 9 D Nicholson 10-7 ... A Maguire
9 KILLY'S FILLY 19F J Bradley 10-7 ... R Farrant (5)

7-4 Malaia, 5-2 Formal Affair, 5-1 Forever Shineing, 8-1 Flaming Miracle, Don Tocino, 12-1 Killy's Filly, 14-1 others.

2.50 MARATHON NOVICES CHASE
(£3,669: 3m 4f) (9)

1 U421 FLORIDA SKY 16 (S) J Upson 7-11-8 ... Mr D Costello (3)
2 /P0 BROADWOOD LAD 24 R Eckley 8-11-3 ... I Lawrence
3 B0-4 FREDDY OWEN 31 J White 8-11-3 ... W McFarland
4 00 JENNY'S GLEN 32 B Rothwell 7-11-3 ... R Supple
5 F383 LASTOFTHEVIKINGS 24 J Needham 9-11-3 ... D Gallagher
6 4231 MUTUAL BENEFIT 17 (B,S) T Casey 7-11-3 ... A Maguire
7 R-PP PHILIPPOINNAT 16 (B,G,S) B Palling 8-11-3 ... N Mann
8 0-U FRENCH PLEASURE 16 (F) D Gandolfo 8-10-12 ... S McNeill
9 MARNWORTH 371P (F,S) O Sherwood 8-10-12 ... Mr J Durkan

4-6 Florida Sky, 5-1 Lastofthevikings, 7-1 Mutual Benefit, 8-1 Freddy Owen, Marnworth, 20-1 French Pleasure, 25-1 others.

3.20 RICHARDSONS OLDBURY NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£4,241: 2m 4f) (4)

1 2123 NICKLE JOE 28 (G,S) M Tate 8-12-0 ... D Gallagher
2 2213 CRYSTAL BEAR 28 (B,F,S) T Forster 9-11-10 ... B Powell
3 1-11 ASTINGS 14 (D,S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-11-1 ... A Maguire
4 663P WILLIE McGARR 28 (G,S) Mrs D Thomas 9-10-13 W McFarland

4-5 Astings, 5-2 Crystal Bear, 3-1 Nickle Joe, 14-1 Willie McGarr

3.50 CHERINGTON NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£2,024: 2m 110yd) (17)

1 605P ALIAS SILVER 73 J Allen 7-11-3 ... Gary Lyons
2 00-F BLURRED VISION 37 G Ham 5-11-3 ... B Powell
3 0P CORNS LITTLE FELLA 25 D Gamphy 6-11-3 ... J Supple (5)
4 6-00 DEVIL'S CORNER 86 H Webb 6-11-3 ... L Reynolds (7)
5 00 GRECIAN SAILOR 78 R Frost 9-11-3 ... R Darke (7)
6 00 HECTOR MARIO 112 J Edwards 6-11-3 ... D Gallagher
7 2/0 MAGELLAN BAY 42 Mrs J Pitman 6-11-3 ... I Lawrence
8 6 METROPOLIS 84 N Gaselee 7-11-3 ... J Frost
9 SOUTHERN DEALER J White 5-11-3 ... W McFarland
10 0/ TULWAR 1111 D Wallscome 7-11-3 ... A Carroll
11 -4FF TURF RUN 16 A Turnell 7-11-3 ... S McNeill
12 7-5 AVENA 15 (F) S Christian 7-10-12 ... G Upton
13 0- DIANE'S PRIDE 317 W Clay 5-10-12 ... Diane Clay
14 00 DO LETS 14 C Drew 5-10-12 ... T Grantham
15 QUEEN OF THE CELTS R Simpson 5-10-12 ... B Wright
16 3 ABSOLUTELY AVERAGE 56 J Upson 4-10-9 ... R Supple
17 009 BONE SETTER 21 S Mellor 4-10-9 ... M Perrett

5-2 Absolutely Average, 5-1 Avena, 8-1 Turf Run, Metropolis, 10-1 Queen of The Celts, 14-1 Southern Dealer, 16-1 others.

4.20 BIDFORD HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,202: 2m 5f 110yd) (5)

1 5362 RIVER BOUNTY 51 (F,G,S) J Upson 8-11-10 ... R Supple
2 -UP0 BALDA BOY 16 (G,S) T Forster 10-11-0 ... B Powell
3 1443 SIMPLE PLEASURE 29 (C,F,G,S) Mrs M Stark 9-11-0 A Maguire
4 3211 JAILBREAKER 16 (G,S) B Millman 7-10-13 ... D Gallagher
5 12-2 BOLD CHOICE 128 (F,S) R Frost 8-10-0 ... D Skyrme

1-2 Jailbreaker, 9-2 River Bounty, 7-1 Simple Pleasure, 8-1 Balda Boy, 10-1 Bold Choice

4.50 SWAN HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,058: 2m 6f 110yd) (10)

1 22-U LANDED GENTRY 113 (S) C Broad 5-11-10 ... I Lawrence
2 1-P6 KNIGHTS 23 (F,G) C Broad 8-11-9 ... Jacqui Oliver
3 1421 HAPPY HORSE 28 (CD,S) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 7-11-8 A Tory
4 114/ VAL D'AUTHIE 715 (D,G) J Joseph 6-11-4 ... D Skyrme
5 3265 ALBERTITO 28 (C,G,S) R Hollinshead 7-11-3 ... S Wynne (3)
6 5/1- FAST THOUGHTS 511 (F,G) D Gandolfo 7-11-0 ... S McNeill
7 F126 JARRWAH 23 (D,G) J Spearing 6-10-13 ... A Maguire
8 2265 KARAR 15 R Rowe 4-10-12 ... M Perrett
9 -4663 LASTING MEMORY 77 (D,F,G,S) R Frost 8-10-11 ... J Frost
10 P-45 GEORGE BUCKINGHAM 4 (B,S) G Ham 9-10-8 ... B Powell

6-4 Happy Horse, 4-1 Landed Gentry, 7-1 Fast Thoughts, 8-1 George Buckingham, Albertito, 10-1 Knights, Karar, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Hollinshead, 4 winners from 12 runners, 33.3%; O Sherwood, 6 from 21, 28.6%; T Forster, 15 from 57, 26.3%; A Turnell, 5 from 22, 22.7%; J Upson, 5 from 22, 22.7%; C Broad, 3 from 15, 20.0%.
JOCKEYS: A Maguire, 14 winners from 58 rides, 24.1%; A Tory, 5 from 22, 22.7%; Diane Clay, 3 from 16, 18.8%. Only qualifiers.

Morceli for festival

Morceli booked his place in the Sun Alliance Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham with an authoritative display of front-running to capture the £15,000 Hennessy Cognac Special Novices' Hurdle at Kelso yesterday. The grey came home 12 lengths clear of Five To Seven with Aslan, the 11-8 favourite, only seventh.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

7.00 Kintwyn. 7.30 Needwood Cube. 8.00 Mystic Eagle. 8.30 Phoneaholic. 9.00 Royal Hill. 9.30 Modest Hope.

GOING: STANDARD
DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

7.00 GROCER HANDICAP
(£3,407: 7f) (12 runners)

1 12 CHAIRMANS CHOICE 26 (G) A Jarvis 4-10-0 ... L Dettori 5
2 002- MAHOOL 171 (D,F) A Scott 5-9-11 ... J Tate (5) 4
3 -152 KINTWYN 14 (D,G) D Laing 4-9-9 ... S Whitworth 3
4 1302 MAPLE BAY 14 (CD,G) K White 5-9-4 ... Paul Eddery 1
5 1200 RAD 8 (B,D,G) S Woods 4-8-10 ... W Woods 2
6 -120 CELESTIAL CHOIR 29 (CD,G) J Eyre 4-8-7 ... M Humphries (7) 7
7 -000 HEATHYARDS GEM 18 (G) R Hollinshead 4-8-1 ... A Garth (5) 10
8 00-0 VILAMAR 5 (D,F) E Alston 4-7-13 ... T Williams 9
9 -434 HONEY VISION 11 (B) G Eden 5-7-12 ... G Bardwell 11
10 4024 ARAWA 7 D Marks 4-7-11 ... M Baird (7) 8
11 2040 VENTURE FOURTH 5 (V) E Alston 5-7-11 ... S Wood 6
12 -000 TOMMY TEMPEST 12 (B) A Bailey 5-7-7 ... D Wright (5) 12

4-1 Chairmans Choice, 5-1 Kintwyn, 6-1 Mahool, 7-1 Celestial Choir, 8-1 Rad, 10-1 Honey Vision, Maple Bay, 12-1 Arawa, 16-1 others.

7.30 BLACKSMITH CLAIMING STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,422: 1m 1f 79yd) (6)

1 0- ADDED DIMENSION 127 J Gosden 8-11 ... L Dettori 1
2 352- LYING EYES 234 (B) W G M Turner 8-8 ... A Daly (7) 3
3 4154 LONE RISK 26 (CD,BF,G) C Allen 8-1 ... G Bardwell 4
4 0-44 LOVE OF THE NORTH 28 (G) R Juckes 7-13 ... T Williams 2
5 645- NEEDWOOD CUBE 67 (B) B Preece 7-13 ... Paul Eddery 5
6 505- MARBLE 121 D Moffatt 7-10 ... Darren Moffatt (5) 6

5-2 Added Dimension, 3-1 Lying Eyes, 4-1 Lone Risk, 5-1 Marble, 7-1 Needwood Cube, 12-1 Love Of The North.

8.00 WHEELWRIGHT CONDITIONS STAKES
(3-Y-O: £3,695: 1m 100yd) (3)

1 -115 UPPER GROSVENOR 14 (CD,G) W Muir 9-7 ... K Darley 2
2 1 MYSTIC EAGLE 22 (D,G) J Gosden 9-1 ... L Dettori 1
3 4121 KILLING TIME 12 (V,CD,G) A Forbes 8-13 ... S D Williams 3

4-7 Mystic Eagle, 5-2 Killing Time, 3-1 Upper Grosvenor.

8.30 BAKER HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £6,056: 6f) (13)

1 1-21 KING RAT 50 (D,F,G) M Johnston 9-7 ... J Weaver 11
2 1131 THORNY BISHOP 11 (D,G) J Bridger 9-3 ... T Williams 1
3 230- MAZEEKA 221 (D,F,B) M Channon 9-3 ... R Painter (7) 12
4 2U-5 BOLD ALEX 15 (D,G,S) S Norton 8-12 ... K Darley 4
5 2-63 PHONEAHOLIC 7 (B,D,B) B Meehan 8-9 ... Paul Eddery 10
6 2121 ALPINE JOHNNY 5 (C,G) R Hollinshead 8-8 (6ex) ... S Perks 7
7 05-6 BROOKHEAD LADY 11 (D,F,S) P Evans 8-7 ... L Dettori 2
8 5214 MILOS 8 (D,G) T Naughton 8-2 ... M Fenton (5) 5
9 1413 PALACEGATE JO 7 (CD,G,S) J Berry 8-1 ... L Charnock 8
10 -852 ABBOTS DAUGHTER 15 (CD,G) B McMahon 7-13 ... A Mackay 6
11 6543 JUST GREENWICH 5 (V,CD,G) P Evans 7-12 ... D Biggs 9
12 -021 BLUE DOMAIN 19 (C,G) R Hollinshead 7-8 M Humphries (7) 13
13 -185 MAZ 48 (G) A Bailey 7-7 ... D Wright (5) 3

4-1 Thorny Bishop, 5-1 King Rat, 6-1 Blue Domain, 7-1 Alpine Johnny, Palacegate Jo, 8-1 Abbots Daughter, 10-1 Bold Alex, 12-1 Mazeeka, 14-1 others.

9.00 COBBLER MAIDEN STAKES
(£3,407: 7f) (10)

1 -220 COBBS CROSS 22 T Caldwell 4-9-10 ... M Fenton (3) 3
2 -030 GALLOP TO GLORY 25 A Forbes 4-9-10 ... S D Williams 8
3 4 SCOTTISH GAMBLER 16 M Hammond 5-9-10 ... J Marshall (5) 2
4 0 YULEDUFERMEE 15 E Alston 5-9-10 ... J Weaver 5
5 60-5 LADY SABINA 50 D O'Neill 4-9-5 ... A Clark 4
6 00-0 SEEMENOMORE 12 B Preece 5-9-5 ... T Wall 6
7 230- CHASTIZE 152 R Hollinshead 3-8-7 ... K Darley 10
8 030- KENTAVRUS WAY 168 R Charlton 3-8-7 ... Paul Eddery 7
9 4- ROYAL HILL 150 Lord Huntingdon 3-8-7 ... L Dettori 9
10 06 SWEETLITTLEMYSTERY 18 E Alston 3-8-2 ... T Williams 1

3-1 Royal Hill, 7-2 Kentavrus Way, 5-1 Scottish Gambler, 6-1 Chastize, 8-1 Cobbs Cross, Lady Sabina, 14-1 Gallop To Glory, 16-1 others.

9.30 BUTCHER HANDICAP
(£3,106: 1m 4f) (12)

1 00/0- FIRST CENTURY 39J (B) B Llewellyn 5-9-13 ... S Whitworth 5
2 464- DEB'S BALL 28J (D,F,B) D Moffatt 8-9-3 Darren Moffatt (5) 11
3 5024 RASAYEL 12 (BF,G) P Evans 4-9-1 ... A Clark 2
4 561/0 TOP-ANNA 8 (D,F,G) J Harris 6-9-0 ... Dean McKeown 10
5 6336 MODEST HOPE 8 (D,F,G) B Richmond 7-8-12 ... J Weaver 12
6 2683 PACIFIC POWER 22 (BF) M Charles 4-8-10 ... G Bardwell 8
7 653- CUTTHROAT KID 126 Mrs M Reveley 4-8-9 ... K Darley 1
8 5220 ROUSITTO 15 (D,F,S) R Hollinshead 6-8-8 ... L Dettori 7
9 6126 LADY CONFESS 22 (B,BF,G) Mrs N Macauley 4-8-5 C Rutter 6
10 6334 WELL AND TRULY 15 (D,G) B McMahon 7-8-4 ... A Mackay 9
11 3132 MR BEAN 14 (CD,G) K Burke 4-8-1 ... Paul Eddery 3
12 0/0-3 NAJEB 14 (B,F) P Evans 5-7-9 ... L Charnock 4

3-1 Cutthroat Kid, 4-1 Deb's Ball, 6-1 Rasayel, 7-1 Modest Hope, Mr Bean, 10-1 Pacific Power, 12-1 Rousitto, Well And Truly, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Johnston, 6 winners from 17 runners, 35.3%; Lord Huntingdon, 5 from 19, 26.3%; J Harris, 3 from 17, 17.6%; J Berry, 4 from 26, 15.4%; A Bailey, 4 from 28, 14.3%; P D Evans, 4 from 30, 13.3%.
JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 11 winners from 46 rides, 23.9%; S D Williams, 4 from 18, 22.2%; L Dettori, 9 from 54, 16.7%; G Bardwell, 3 from 23, 13%; K Darley, 4 from 32, 12.5%; A Clark, 3 from 25, 12.0%.

Blinkered first time

LINGFIELD PARK: 2.40 Papagayos. 3.40 Young Moon. 4.10 Invocation. WOLVERHAMPTON: 7.00 Rad, Venture Fourth. 7.30 Needwood Cube.

HEREFORD

THUNDERER

1.55 Dreams End. 2.25 Barely Black. 2.55 The Jet Set. 3.25 The Artful Rascal. 3.55 Goldingo. 4.25 Castle Diamond. 4.55 Sharpside.

GOING: SOFT

1.55 TEME NOVICES HURDLE
(£1,865: 2m 1f) (8 runners)

1 0-15 GOTTA BE JOKING 85 (BF,G) Miss H Knight 6-11-10 ... J McCarthy (3)
2 0 ADMIRAL BYNG 24 R Dickin 7-11-3 ... D Meredith (3)
3 06 CHILDSWAY 109 (BF) S Christian 6-11-3 ... G Upton
4 DREAMS END 128F P Hobbs 6-11-3 ... M Hourigan
5 P0 TEMPLE KNIGHT 26 Miss C Johnsey 5-11-3 ... S Earle
6 FOIL THE FOX K Bailey 6-10-12 ... A Thornton (3)
7 0 MERRYHILL MADAM 37 P Bradley 5-10-12 ... W Humphreys
8 32 YOUNG TESS 16 Mrs A Knight 4-10-4 ... S Burrough

13-8 Dreams End, 2-1 Young Tess, 13-2 Admiral Byng, 8-1 others.

2.25 NEWENT HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,827: 2m 3f) (9)

1 4262 CHAIN SHOT 66 (F,G) J Peacock 9-12-0 ... R Bellamy
2 1132 DEXTRA DOVE 10 (F,G,S) R Alner 7-11-11 ... S Earle
3 3212 PITHY 45 (C,G,S) R Price 12-11-9 ... Mr G Hogan (7)
4 U-2P JAMES MY BOY 16 (G,S) W Clay 14-10-13 ... R Davis (3)
5 3134 BARELY BLACK 25 (S) N Babbage 6-10-10 ... W Humphreys
6 12FP MO ICHI DO 32 (B,F,G,S) Miss S Wilton 8-10-9 ... T Eley (3)
7 2334 BOSSBURG 61 (B,BF,S) D McCain 7-10-3 ... J Railton
8 5226 OLD ROAD 32 (B,F,G,S) D Wintle 8-10-0 ... P McDermott
9 240F DUNKERY BEACON 24 H Howe 8-10-0 ... P McLoughlin (7)

5-2 Dextra Dove, 7-2 Barely Black, 5-1 Old Road, 13-2 Chain Shot, 8-1 others.

2.55 MARCH NOVICES SELLING HURDLE
(£1,550: 2m 3f 110yd) (14)

1 0 BEE BEAT 31 H Manners 6-11-5 ... M Bosley
2 -06P CUMREWS NEPHEW 51 R Brotherton 6-11-5 ... T Wall
3 3056 JUMPING JUDGE 37 N Thomson 7-11-5 ... S Earle
4 4-0 MOON MONKEY 106 Mrs A King 6-11-5 ... M Hourigan
5 436P NORTHERN TRIAL 3 K Burke 6-11-5 ... N Jukes (7)
6 P/P0 NORTH HOLLOW 40 D McCain 9-11-5 ... Mr D McCain (5)
7 /U SONNY'S SONG 2 J O'Shea 8-11-5 ... A Thornton (3)
8 U0P5 THE JET SET 17 Mrs H Parrott 7-11-5 ... R Davis (3)
9 /P WHAT A MOUNT 40 M Scudamore 11-11-5 ... R Bellamy
10 B/5-P HELLO LADY 8 P Burgoyne 7-11-0 ... Mr J O'Shaughnessy (7)
11 6P5 MISTRESS MINX 40 N Smith 5-11-0 ... R J Beggan
12 0PP ORCHESTRATED CHAOS 23 J Mullins 5-11-0 ... Mr J Mead
13 P NATIONAL FLAG 5 K Burke 4-10-10 ... B Clifford
14 WOLF'S HABITAT (V) R Juckes 4-10-5 ... J Kavanagh

11-4 Northern Trial, 3-1 Jumping Judge, 6-1 The Jet Set, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Alner, 3 winners from 7 runners, 42.9%; M Pipe, 40 from 118, 33.9%; S Christian, 5 from 17, 29.4%; M Scudamore, 4 from 15, 26.7%; D Burchell, 12 from 46, 26.1%.
JOCKEYS: J McCarthy, 3 winners from 9 rides, 33.3%; M Hourigan, 4 from 18, 22.2%; J Kavanagh, 4 from 19, 21.1%; M Foster, 6 from 29, 20.7%; D Bridgwater, 15 from 79, 19.0%; N Mann, 10 from 54, 18.5%.

3.25 CHARLIE KNIPE HUNTERS CHASE
(£1,511: 3m 1f 110yd) (6)

1 -565 CURAHEEN BOY 28 (CD,F,G) C Trietline 14-12-7 ... Miss J Butler (7)
2 1FP- CARRICKMINES 274 (F,G,S) L Bowles 9-12-4 Miss P Jones (5)
3 4-42 CAPE COTTAGE 24 (F,G,S) D Caro 10-12-0 ... A Phillips (7)
4 0P- NORMANDY BILL 376 Mrs C Black 7-12-0 ... D McCain (5)
5 11-P THE ARTFUL RASCAL 21 (F,S) R Acton 10-12-0 ... C Barlow (7)
6 -0UU DOUBTING DONNA 4 (B,S) Mrs D Hughes 8-11-13 V Hughes (7)

☐ Form figures include Point-to-points.

6-4 Cape Cottage, 5-2 The Artful Rascal, 5-1 Carrickmines, 9-1 Doubting Donna, 10-1 Curaheen Boy, 20-1 Normandy Bill.

3.55 BOSBURY HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,327: 2m 1f) (9)

1 1-11 ON THE SAUCE 198 (B,C,F,G,S) M Pipe 7-12-0 ... T Dascombe (7)
2 0-05 TILT TECH FLYER 87 (S) C Broad 9-11-9 ... N Collum (7)
3 020- BANKONIT 256 (S) P Burgoyne 6-11-8 ... Mr J O'Shaughnessy (7)
4 380F TITUS GOLD 9 (V,S) W Clay 9-11-4 ... D Bridgwater
5 024- VISCOUNT TULLY 515 (S) C Jackson 9-11-4 ... W Humphreys
6 1-F2 SCHWEPPES TONIC 9 (C,G,S) D Burchell 8-11-1 ... D Matthews (5)
7 04-3 GOLDINGO 74 (CD,S) G Price 7-10-6 ... R Davis (3)
8 094- JUST 278 (V,D,S) M Pipe 8-10-4 ... M Foster
9 3422 BALLERINA ROSE 14F (G) D Burchell 7-10-0 ... A Procter (3)

4-1 Goldingo, 9-2 On The Sauce, 11-2 Schweppes Tonic, 13-2 Ballerina Rose, 13-2 Just, 10-1 Titus Gold, 12-1 Tilt Tech Flyer, 20-1 Viscount Tully.

4.25 MALVERN NOVICES CHASE (£2,502: 2m) (5)

1 1331 CASTLE DIAMOND 2 (F,S) H Kavanagh 7-11-12 ... M Bosley
2 P-P5 ALL ELECTRIC 29 (B) C Popham 9-11-2 ... R Farrant (5)
3 /02UP ALWAYS REMEMBER 24 (G) P Hobbs 7-11-2 ... B Clifford
4 6334 HIGHLAND POACHER 28 (G) D McCain 7-11-2 ... J Railton
5 P0P- MICRONOVA 278 A James 8-11-2 ... R Bellamy

10-11 Castle Diamond, 7-4 Always Remember, 10-1 All Electric, Highland Poacher, 16-1 Micronova.

4.55 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,907: 2m 3f 110yd) (14)

1 4P16 RAFTERS 21 (BF,S) J Bradley 5-11-10 ... R Farrant (5)
2 1104 SHARED GOLD 14 (S) J Bosley 4-11-7 ... M Bosley
3 1420 RAGGERTY 4 (S) S Coathup 4-11-3 ... N Bentley (5)
4 -852 RASTA MAN 31 W Musson 6-11-0 ... N Mann
5 0444 BOLD STREET BLUES 10 J Bennett 7-10-12 ... C Llewellyn
6 0003 FORTUNES COURSE 14 J King 5-10-9 ... J Kavanagh
7 0042 MR POPPLETON 12F (BF) R Brotherton 5-10-4 ... D Bridgwater
8 FP52 SHARPSIDE 21 (S) P Hobbs 7-10-1 ... R Davis (3)
9 F-00 MUCH 24 Mrs A Price 7-10-1 ... Mr M Jackson
10 36P- BRENDA HUNT 306 M Muggeridge 5-10-0 ... M Ahern
11 0006 LOYAL GAIT 63 A J Wilson 6-10-0 ... B Clifford
12 PPP- SARAH'S WROATH 282 M Scudamore 9-10-0 ... R Bellamy
13 P555 LUCKY BLUE 51 N Thomson 7-10-0 ... S Earle
14 0490 JANET SCIBS 31 N Ayliffe 8-10-0 ... Guy Lewis (5)

7-2 Sharpside, 4-1 Mr Poppleton, 9-2 Fortunes Course, 7-1 Raggerty, 8-1 Rafters, 10-1 Shared Gold, 12-1 Rasta Man, 14-1 Bold Street Blues, 16-1 Loyal Gait, 20-1 Lucky Blue, 25-1 others.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

2.10 Apollo Red. 2.40 Kindergarten Boy. 3.10 Ecu De France. 3.40 Dune River. 4.10 Croft Imperial. 4.40 Surprise Guest.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.10 TAURUS CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,557: 7f) (7 runners)

1 -114 SECOND COLOURS 14 (CD,BF,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-13 ... K Darley 1
2 -134 APOLLO RED 18 (V,CD,G) A Moore 5-8-7 ... N Adams 7
3 /40-0 ERIK ODIN 32 (CD,G) Mrs L Piggott 7-8-5 Victoria Appleby (7) 3
4 0430 LETSBEONESTABOUTIT 11 (B,CD,F,B,S) Mrs N Macauley 8-8-4 ... L Dettori 2
5 6034 RESPECTABLE JONES 4 (CD,BF,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 8-8-3 ... Paul Eddery 4
6 6-23 BATTLING BELLA 25 G L Moore 5-7-13 ... A Morris 5
7 0306 TURTLE BEACH 8 (D,G) C C Elsey 5-7-13 ... D Biggs 6

2-1 Second Colours, 5-2 Respectable Jones, 9-2 Apollo Red, 5-1 Letsbeonestaboutit, 10-1 Battling Bella, 16-1 Turtle Beach, 50-1 Erik Odin.

2.40 PISCES MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,467: 1m) (8)

1 0- BOOKWORM 241 S Dow 9-0 ... A Martinez (7) 2
2 06- CHASING SHADOWS 202 R Hannon 9-0 ... J Reid 4
3 0-05 GREENBACK 19 S Williams 9-0 ... K Darley 1
4 0-3 KINDERGARTEN BOY 11 R Boss 9-0 ... L Dettori 8
5 3436 NAPOLEON STAR 8 M Saunders 9-0 ... P McCabe (5) 3
6 00-2 PAPAGAYOS 11 (B) C Brittain 9-0 ... B Doyle (3) 7
7 65- SNAKE PLISSKEN 250 A Bailey 9-0 ... A Mackay 5
8 60 STREET BUSKER 15 W Musson 9-0 ... D Biggs 6

6-4 Papagayos, 5-2 Kindergarten Boy, 9-2 Snake Plissken, 8-1 others.

3.10 RAPPORTEUR CONDITIONS STAKES
(£3,688: 1m 2f) (8)

1 3121 BEVERLY KNIGHT 18 (CD,G) D Murray Smith 4-9-11 C Rutter 3
2 4-41 RAPPORTEUR 39 (CD,F,G,S) C C Elsey 8-9-9 ... W Newnes 7
3 102- EMBANKMENT 135 (F,S) R Hannon 4-9-7 ... J Reid 1
4 -U22 LOWAWATHA 28 (CD,G,S) D Morris 6-9-6 ... C Hodgson (3) 6
5 0-12 ECU DE FRANCE 18 (V,CD,G) M Madgwick 4-9-1 ... L Dettori 2
6 0431 EXHIBIT AIR 7 (B,CD,F,G) P Howling 4-8-12 ... K Darley 8
7 /110 VIEW FROM ABOVE 18 (CD,BF,F,G) N Walker 8-8-9 ... D Gibbs (7) 4
8 0-02 MANAARAH 11 (D,F) Pat Mitchell 4-8-6 ... Stephen Davies (3) 5

7-2 Ecu De France, 4-1 Embankment, 5-1 Rapporteur, 6-1 View From Above, 7-1 Beverly Knight, 10-1 Lowawatha, Exhibit Air, 20-1 Manaarah.

3.40 CAPRICORN HANDICAP
(£6,108: 1m) (7)

1 1-11 DUNE RIVER 21 (CD,F,G) D Loder 5-9-10 ... L Dettori 5
2 324-0 YOUNG MOON 7 (B,D,G) R Harris 8-9-7 ... M Tebbutt 7
3 41-3 MENTALASANYTHIN 56 (D,BF,G,S) A Bailey 5-8-13 A Mackay 4
4 0-21 SILKY SIREN 7 (C,D,F,G) B Meehan 5-8-8 ... S Whitworth 2
5 3-603 BASHAAT 7 (F) N Walker 6-8-3 ... D Gibbs (7) 1
6 3110 SIR NORMAN HOLT 11 (B,CD,BF,F,G) R O'Sullivan 5-8-1 ... D Biggs 6
7 65-0 CEE-JAY-AY 5 (D,F,G,S) J Berry 7-7-7 ... G Bardwell 3

2-1 Dune River, 4-1 Silky Siren, 9-2 Sir Norman Holt, 6-1 Mentalasanythin, 8-1 Bashaat, 10-1 Cee-Jay-Ay, 33-1 Young Moon.

4.10 GEMINI HANDICAP
(£3,688: 6f) (10)

1 1-22 SAMSOLOM 18 (CD,F,G) P Howling 6-10-0 ... K Darley 10
2 3-31 RUNNING GLIMPSE 18 (CD,F,G) Miss B Sanders 6-10-0 ... D Wright (5) 7
3 2380 INVOCATION 7 (V,C,G) A Moore 7-9-11 ... N Adams 9
4 3132 CROFT IMPERIAL 7 (C,BF,F,G,S) M Johnston 7-9-10 J Weaver 4
5 22-0 DOMICKSKY 7 (C,D,F,G,S) M Channon 6-9-9 ... R Painter (7) 5
6 -011 SPENDER 28 (CD,G) P Harris 5-9-0 ... L Dettori 6
7 3214 FARNDALE 12 (D,G) J Berry 7-8-0 ... G Bardwell 2
8 64-4 SCOTS LAW 42 (B,C,D,F,G) R O'Sullivan 7-7-10 ... D Biggs 8
9 0604 CHRISTOPH'S GIRL 7 (D,F,G) Allan Smith (Bel) 5-7-7 ... A Mackay 1
10 0-00 TOSHIBA COMET 28 (B,CD,F,G,S) Pat Mitchell 7-7-7 ... Kim McDonnell 3

3-1 Spender, 7-2 Running Glimpse, 4-1 Croft Imperial, 9-2 Samsolom, 8-1 Farndale, 10-1 Domicksky, 16-1 others.

4.40 LEO HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £2,872: 1m 2f) (9)

1 4311 SURPRISE GUEST 14 (CD,G) M Johnston 9-7 ... J Weaver 6
2 38-2 RISKY TU 8 P Kelleway 9-0 ... Paul Eddery 7
3 51 PLINTH 21 (CD,G) N Graham 8-12 ... L Dettori 4
4 000- STOMPIN 186 C Brittain 8-12 ... B Doyle (3) 9
5 3323 SHUTTLECOCK 14 (B) R Phillips 8-10 ... A Clark 5
6 04-6 GOLDEN HADEER 58 R Harris 8-4 ... Stephen Davies (3) 2
7 06-3 LITTLE LUKE 18 P Butler 7-11 ... N Adams 3
8 5-55 CADENABBIA 8 C C Elsey 7-11 ... D Biggs 8
9 -443 DONT CON TH'BOOKIE 21 W Musson 7-8 ... A Mackay 1

5-2 Plinth, 7-2 Surprise Guest, 5-1 Risky Tu, 6-1 Little Luke, 7-1 Shuttlecock, 10-1 Dont Con Th'Bookie, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: D Loder, 5 winners from 15 runners, 33.3%; N Walker, 3 from 9, 33.3%; P Harris, 5 from 16, 31.3%; J Berry, 15 from 63, 23.8%, R Boss, 7 from 31, 22.6%; R Hollinshead, 16 from 73, 21.9%.
JOCKEYS: L Dettori, 44 winners from 134 rides, 32.8%; K Darley, 5 from 16, 31.3%; R Painter, 3 from 12, 25.0%; J Weaver, 15 from 69, 21.7%; C Hodgson, 3 from 22, 13.6%; B Doyle, 18 from 143, 12.6%.

THE TIMES RISING STARS

Winners from Huntingdon OF THE GIFT VOUCHERS FROM Aquascutum

£150 VOUCHERS Mr. N. Summers of Southampton whose anagram for Roving Report was Reving Torpor.

£100 VOUCHERS Mr. Flint of Rickmansworth whose anagram for First Design was De First Sign.

£50 VOUCHERS R. J. Wasley of Cheltenham whose anagram for Sunny Mount was Synonum Nut.

There's £300 of Aquascutum vouchers to be won each time there's a race in The Times Rising Stars 9 race Series.
Look out for the £5000 prize at Newbury on 25th March.

France intend to halt six-match losing sequence

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, IN PARIS

NONE of the other three home unions has a record like England's in Paris: where for Welshmen, Irishmen or Scot the Parc des Princes has spelt defeat, sometimes humiliation, the English bulldog has growled out a successful challenge five times in the last 15 years, against three victories by France.

"The law of sequences demands to be interrupted," Guy Laporte, manager of the French team which meets England in the five nations' championship this afternoon, smiled but there is little doubt that six successive defeats rankle with the French and that the hound which has bayed at them most successfully is not so much the bulldog but the pit bull, the name which his colleagues affectionately accord Brian Moore.

But the weather here yesterday was more reminiscent of those palmy days of the 1970s when the sun shone and French backs ran riot at England's expense. At the same time France have evoked English qualities, not only of playing discipline but of summoning the fickle Parisian crowd to their support.

They have recognised the great swell of encouragement at Twickenham that has characterised recent English performances there and Pierre Berbizier, the coach, has appealed for the same today. "It would be good for the French team to feel others pushing behind them," he said. "I hope that everyone at the stadium will be able to give a bit."

Yet Berbizier knows that only his players can turn the tide. Before the beating in Wales last month he felt his squad was well on track towards the World Cup next year; after that defeat in Cardiff he has begun to ask questions, the answers to which will only be known this afternoon. Similarly he will know then whether the gamble he has taken by recalling Laurent Cabannes to his back row has worked.

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

Cabannes is universally acknowledged to be a great player, yet he has not been seen since September when he damaged thigh muscles playing centre for his club.

England's nearest approximation is David Pears who, like Cabannes, was injured in September but at least has three matches to his credit in the last fortnight. A week ago Pears was looking forward to a run out in the midday A international here with an eye on the summer tour to South Africa; now he brings his undoubted attacking skills to bear in his first international at full back but in a side whose confidence in its ability to attack effectively has taken a battering in the last year.

Yesterday Pears did not complete light training at La Boulie in Versailles, instead surrendering an old muscle strain to the attention of the physiotherapist. It was a positive move to pick him so swiftly but it will take positive rugby to make best use of him from an England side mortified at its failure to capitalise on the victory last November over New Zealand.

"I'm expecting a performance full of pride," Will Carling, the England captain, said. His only losing appearance here was the one-point defeat when he made his international debut in 1988. Full of application and concentration, too, rather than the untidy lineout work which cost Martin Bayfield his place, the failure to retain ball in the tackle and the negligence under high kicks which was apparent against Scotland and Ireland.

Above all, this match will be about fundamentals: the England scrum must put in an assertive performance and Rob Andrew, restored as primary goalkicker for the first time in five years, must kick his goals. Hitherto he has been the back-up for others; now he has no back-up unless Pears, no longer Harlequins' regular kicker, is counted as such.

There is considerable mutual respect for the skills of the respective teams but whether we get a triumph or otherwisetoday is impossible to tell.

TODAY'S TEAMS IN PARIS

FRANCE		ENGLAND
J-L Sadourny (Colomiers)	15	D Pears (Harlequins)
P Saint-André (Montferrand)	14	I Hunter (Northampton)
P Sella (Agen)	13	W D C Carling (Harlequins, capt)
T Lacroix (Dax)	12	P R de Glanville (Bath)
W Techouéyres (SBUC)	11	R Underwood (Leicester/RAF)
A Penaud (Brive)	10	C R Andrew (Wasps)
F Galthié (Colomiers)	9	C D Morris (Orrell)
P Gallart (Béziers)	1	J Leonard (Harlequins)
J-M Gonzales (Bayonne)	2	B C Moore (Harlequins)
L Bénézech (Racing Club)	3	V E Ubogu (Bath)
L Cabannes (Racing Club)	6	T A K Rodber (N'pton/Army)
O Merle (Grenoble)	4	M O Johnson (Leicester)
O Roumat (Dax, captain)	5	N C Redman (Bath)
A Benazzi (Agen)	7	B B Clarke (Bath)
P Benetton (Agen)	8	S O Ojomoh (Bath)

Referee: S R Hilditch (Ireland)

Replacements: 16 E N'Tamack (Toulouse), 17 P Montlaur (Agen), 18 G Accoceberry (Bègles), 19 L Loppy (Toulon), 20 F Landreau (Grenoble), 21 L Seigne (Mérignac).

Replacements: 16 M Catt (Bath), 17 S Barnes (Bath), 18 K P P Bracken (Bristol), 19 G C Rowntree (Leicester), 20 R G R Dawe (Bath), 21 D Ryan (Wasps).

Ireland aiming to build on Twickenham victory



Brian Robinson, the Ireland flanker, packs down in training for the five nations' championship match against Scotland in Dublin today

Scotland face daunting test of character

FROM GERALD DAVIES IN DUBLIN

AS THIS season's five nations' championship resumes its unpredictable course, the fascination rests as much in the character of the individual players as it does in the skill they possess.

Perhaps more so. The unexpected results have had little to do with perceived talent or reputation. Predictions have proved fruitless. Destiny has rested as much in character as anything else.

It is Scotland who face the sterner test of resolve at Lansdowne Road this afternoon. They must respond to a narrow loss against England which, but for a few seconds, could have been a win. Ireland, on the other hand, must prove that their startling victory at Twickenham was not merely a bolt from the blue.

Given the nature of this year's championship, pre-match analysis is as likely to mislead as enlighten. The mood in the respective dressing-rooms is critical and, at this stage, inestimable. All is in flux.

The so-called "31st player", the much-maligned referee, who must make instant interpretations of the laws, has also played a part in the uncertainty.

It has been argued that, but for the referees seeing one thing and not the other at Murrayfield and Twickenham, Scotland and Ireland might have arrived for today's contest in different frame of mind.

A case has been made, rightly or wrongly, that Scotland were on the receiving end of a dubious decision which allowed Callard his winning penalty for England.

A firmer argument could be made for the referee's misjudgment in awarding a penalty against Andrew, of England, and not Geoghegan, of Ireland, which presented Elwood with what proved to be the winning score.

That moment of good fortune, the Irish may feel, was no more than they deserved. Their luck had deserted them a fortnight earlier when a piece of woodwork had robbed Elwood of a decisive score on their home ground. Had his penalty attempt not hit the upright against Wales, his team might well have been contemplating the triple crown this afternoon. Thus, in a season unusually dominated by chance, winning and losing have been but a hair's breadth away.

A momentary mistake or a stray trajectory can undo the many hours of studied preparation. But such are the vagaries of a cussed yet beguiling game, which has seen 41 penalties kicked and 14 tries scored in six matches. Twelve of these tries have come from two teams, France and Wales. Yet, if recent history is anything to go by, this fixture should hold no fears about such a discrepancy in the statistics. In the last ten years it has maintained an encouraging average of four tries per game.

Both teams have contributed vastly to the lively and adventurous spectacle which this encounter has generally proved to be. In one respect, Ireland may not feel so happy. They have not won since 1988. To whom will this provide the greater spur?

Whereas Ireland field the side that beat England, Scotland have been forced to make one change from the team which appeared a month ago. Ian Smith, of Gloucester, replaces Rob Wainwright, who suffered a fractured cheekbone at Murrayfield.

Scotland will be urged on by the thought that if they fail today they will have to return to Edinburgh in two weeks' time and attempt to avoid a whitewash against France. Ireland, whose last match this is, will want to end on a sound note before they embark for Australia, where they play two internationals in the summer. Which will prove to be the greater motivation?

TODAY'S TEAMS IN DUBLIN

IRELAND		SCOTLAND
C M P O'Shea (Lansdowne)	15	A G Hastings (Watsonians, capt)
R M Wallace (Garryowen)	14	A G Stanger (Hawick)
M J Field (Malone)	13	S Hastings (Watsonians)
P P A Danaher (Garryowen)	12	D S Wyllie (Stewart's Melville)
S P Geoghegan (London Irish)	11	K M Logan (Stirling County)
E P Elwood (Lansdowne)	10	G P J Townsend (Gala)
M T Bradley (Cork Const, capt)	9	G Armstrong (Jed-Forest)
N J Popplewell (Greystones)	1	A V Sharp (Bristol)
T J Kingston (Dolphin)	2	K S Milne (Heriot's FP)
P M Clohessy (Young Munster)	3	A P Burnell (London Scottish)
B F Robinson (Ballymena)	6	P Walton (Northampton)
M J Galwey (Shannon)	4	D S Munro (Glasgow H/Kelvinside)
N P J Francis (Old Belvedere)	5	A I Reed (Bath)
W D McBride (Malone)	7	I R Smith (Gloucester)
P S Johns (Dungannon)	8	G W Weir (Melrose)

Referee: E F Morrison (England)

Replacements: 16 C P Clarke (Terenure Coll), 17 A N McGowan (Blackrock Coll), 18 R Saunders (London Irish), 19 K D O'Connell (Sunday's Well), 20 G F Halpin (London Irish), 21 K G M Wood (Garryowen).

Replacements: 16 M Dods (Gala), 17 C M Chalmers (Melrose), 18 B W Redpath (Melrose), 19 C D Hogg (Melrose), 20 P H Wright (Boroughmuir) 21 K D McKenzie (Stirling County).



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Referee sees nothing sinister in prospects for Paris rematch

David Hands talks to the Irish official who dismissed two Frenchmen during the last visit by the England team to Parc des Princes

Stephen Hilditch returned to Paris this weekend with no burden other than his refereeing kit and his dinner jacket. The Irish official, who dispatched two Frenchmen from the field during the 1992 five nations' championship match between France and England, foresees no hangover beyond anything caused by intemperance at the post-match banquet.

"I would be very disappointed if there was any residue from that match," Hilditch said. "Three weeks afterwards I was back in France for a club match and I was never treated with anything but respect. I refereed one of the Tests France played in South Africa last summer and in November I took the French Barbarians' game with the Australians. There has been plenty of time to talk about interpretation."

Interpretation — the word that is ever on the lips of international players, coaches and team managers. As France and England prepared for their seventieth meeting today at the Parc des Princes, and Ireland work towards their championship finale against Scotland in Dublin, the profiles of the two referees, Hilditch and Ed Morrison, of England, will have been studied anew.

Hilditch, 47, is headmaster of Belfast High School and a referee of 22 years' experience. Within the past two years, however, since he dispatched Gregoire Lascubé and Vincent Moscato from the Parc, the laws of the game have changed and not, judging by much of the fare on offer, domestically and internationally, for the better.

But Hilditch contends it has not made the game more difficult to referee: what it has done, he believes, is to create doubt in the minds of players over what they may legitimately do in the second-phase areas so vital to continuity. On the tackle law, he said: "It's too complex for players in the midst of the game where, for example, they can fall on the ball if it's loose but not in a tackle [as Ireland's Simon Geoghegan was permitted to do by Patrick Thomas, of France, against England, leading to the decisive penalty]. What we need is a law which allows players instinctively to know what they have to do.

"It gives referees no pleasure to penalise players who don't know they have committed an offence." By attempting to cover every scintilla of law, the lawmakers have created doubt in the minds of the players who show their frustration by querying refereeing decisions.

Hilditch is also unhappy about the turnover law, which gives the ball to the side not in possession at the stoppage. "Before, if the ruck or maul was moving forward and you blew the whistle, everyone understood who had the advantage," he said. "The change in law hasn't made refereeing more difficult but it has led to fundamental change in the tactics of the game. A lot of aimless kicking now goes on."

DAVID CANNON/ALLSPORT



Hilditch dismisses Lascubé, of France, left, in 1992

What has changed is the scrutiny now applied to referees. "There has been a shift over the last ten years — there might have been the odd comment about decisions once, whereas now there seems to be an intensity of scrutiny and I don't think rugby can stand up to that," Hilditch said. "The analysis that went on over the last decision of the Scotland-England game [the penalty awarded to England which allowed Jonathan Callard to kick the winning goal] was crazy."

Hilditch, though he is following with interest the Rugby Football Union's experiments with audio-communication between referee and touch judges, is worried that the character of the game may change if responsibility devolves among a greater number of officials. "The referee should still be in a position to wait and see if advantage applies," he said.

The admirable relationship between rugby union players and officials has been the subject of envy from other sports, whose own judicial relationships have broken down too many times for comfort. It would be ironic if, by becoming over-protective or in thrall to the pursuit of "entertainment", rugby's own lawmakers found themselves in the same boat.

Traditional rivalries in Glasgow offer club's new owner basis for revival

Celtic can rebuild on firm foundations



ROB HUGHES
Weekend View

IAN WADDLE



Brian Dempsey, the former Celtic director who has been an important figure in the takeover, arrives at Celtic Park yesterday

Driving to an Old Firm match in Glasgow five years ago, with traffic bumper to bumper and the rain pelting down, I was able to divine a backstreet route to Celtic Park. It was simple: follow the green bus displaying a picture of the Pope in its rear window.

That might have led to a religious ceremony, and in a way it did. It was the 203rd Old Firm match and, specifically, the initiation in the blue of Rangers of Mo Johnston, the Catholic who played for Protestant Rangers.

Those who have been drawn to the pulsating stirrings of the game in Glasgow accept that, in football terms, Scotland and England are different countries. But it is also appreciated, in both lands, that football, despite all the damage done by hooliganism, runs close to the soul of community living there.

Glasgow without Celtic? It would not be a whole city. This weekend, whether or not you believe that the peril of bankruptcy really hangs over the club, there is a reminder from south of the border of how football clubs, with incredible faith, come back from the wrong side of the financial line. In Wolverhampton on Thursday night, more than 1,000 supporters camped outside their evocative new Molineux stadium to ensure that they could buy one of the 2,500 tickets the club has been allocated for the FA Cup quarter-final next Sunday at Chelsea.

So Wolves, having lain dormant for 30 years, has stirred almost tribally to the distant whiff of Wembley. That club, which found in Sir Jack Hayward a multi-millionaire to resurrect it, more than once passed through the receiver's door.

Therefore it is not surprising that in Glasgow, where Rangers is benefiting from its own multi-millionaire, David Murray, the belief is that a Scot exiled in Canada will become the saviour of Celtic.

Fergus McCann and his business partners will have much to do. It is nothing but a memory, nothing but tradition, that Celtic, under the late Jock Stein, once so dominated Old Firm rivalry that they won nine consecutive Scottish championships in the Sixties and early Seventies.

Since then, of course, the nature of football and the means of survival has changed from a game to a business. Nothing illustrates this more than the Glaswegian divide. While Celtic Park is, in its way, an endearing reminder of old stadiums in which tens of thousands stood in primitive surroundings, Rangers' stadium at Ibrox has slimmed down to an all-seater, 44,000 capacity arena. After spending £26 million on that while Celtic apparently has run up debts of £7 million, Murray's exploitation of the Protestant half of Glasgow's willingness to pay for their elegance has bred comfort, security, and ringing cash tills for such products as Rangers tartan kilts and the club's own brand of wine and whisky. Indeed, everything and anything in blue.

Of course, times change. Celtic and Rangers, nevertheless, are inter-dependent. Not even Rangers, certainly not its chairman, would dance on the coffin if Celtic were to go under. For their rivalry has existed for a century and may well last another. It is the essence of the marketability of the clubs.

The bigotry at Celtic Park and Ibrox during Old Firm matches shakes the unaligned visitor, yet how often one has been there, heard and seen the ferocity of it, and yet gone away to muse on the fact that from crowds in excess of 50,000, hardly more than 30 arrests have been made, all for drunkenness.

The lack of physical menace, even at the time when clubs throughout Britain had terrifying hooligan problems, was because Glasgow's police knew their job and their public. It was also because football took over completely, and football is deeply, religiously, important to the people of the city. The divisions would find worse outlets were football not there providing its unique distraction, its tribal pull on the citizens.

When Celtic's messy takeover is complete, perhaps when the club re-emerges to compete on something closer to level terms with Rangers, football will be seen to have triumphed both over the change and the commercialism of the new age, and over those who feel that tradition can easily be buried. You do not need to be Scottish to appreciate that: all you have to do is go to Wolves at this time of year, to step foot in the Billy Wright stand, and to feel, to hear and to see that tradition itself is a marketable commodity.

Venables manages to ride out criticism in new book

By John Goodbody

ENGLAND will play Norway, one of the countries that prevented them from qualifying for the World Cup finals, in an international football match at Wembley on May 22. England may also meet Wales in an exhibition on May 17 at Wembley, but this fixture between countries that failed to reach the finals has not been confirmed.

Norway and Holland finished ahead of England in their qualifying group; Graham Taylor subsequently resigned as England manager. His successor, Terry Venables, who leads out his first international team at Wembley against Denmark on Wednesday, is the subject of a biography that will be published on Monday.

The timing of the publication is embarrassing. It will revive memories of the acrimonious split last year between Venables and Alan Sugar at Tottenham Hotspur, just as the football authorities thought attention would focus on Venables's ability to raise England's footballing standard.

Venables: The Inside Story concludes that, although Venables is the outstanding coach in England, he was too ambitious to move into business, was ill-advised in his choice of associates and lacked financial acumen. He is described as "more Arthur Daley than Al Capone".

Harry Harris and Steve Curry, the authors and leading football reporters, also highlight the activity of agents, alleging that during negotiations some are receiving money from both clubs and players. This is irregular and possibly illegal, unless both sides are aware of the agents' dual interests.

The evidence, compiled from the work of the authors and other journalists, is certain to interest the enquiry of the Premier League. Rick Parry, the chief executive, Robert Reid, a deputy High Court judge, and Steve Coppell, the former England international, are investigating claims of undercover payments in transfer deals.

Venables has admitted that the paying of agents is commonplace in the Premiership. However, the Football Association cleared him to take over as England manager when the police reported that there was no evidence of fraud against Venables during his six years at White Hart Lane.

The new England coach has said of the book that "it is not worth commenting on". However, there will be many other people commenting on its contents and its conclusions, particularly at Wembley on Wednesday.

* *Venables: The Inside Story* by Harris Harris and Steve Curry (Headline), £16.99.

Dalglish seeks new partner for Shearer

By Peter Ball and Keith Pike

DEFEAT at Highbury last week not only ended Blackburn Rovers' 12-game unbeaten run in the FA Carling Premiership, it also deprived them of Kevin Gallacher for the rest of the season. At Ewood Park today they meet Liverpool in a match they must win if they are to keep Manchester United in their sights.

Kenny Dalglish, the Blackburn manager, hopes that one of their long-term absentees, Mike Newell and Paul Warhurst, can be pressed into service as Alan Shearer's partner. Newell scored the only goal at Anfield in September, but the match was scarred by a mass fight after Liverpool had attempted to rely on strong-arm tactics.

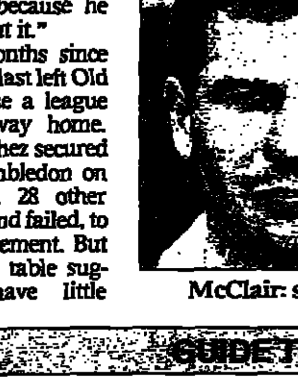
"There were things in that game which you don't want to see," Dalglish said, although he thought a repetition was unlikely. "I don't think anybody got any value from it." In a week when refereeing standards have been under discussion once again, Dalglish also said that much depended on a referee's priorities. "It's easy for referees to see someone kick the ball away or not standing ten yards away at a free kick, but they cannot see people going over the top. If they were booking those people they might cut it out."

Alex Ferguson and Dalglish are hardly soulmates, but after seeing more than one side trying to outmuscle his team recently, the Manchester United manager — fined £250 by the FA yesterday for remarks made to a referee during an A team game against Blackburn in December — would agree with that. They are again without Cantona against Chelsea, and Keane and Hughes are carrying knocks, although Pallister has recovered from a neck injury.

Provided Keane is fit, United may maintain the 4-3-3 formation that worked so well at Hillsborough on Wednesday. "The benefit is that it enables your two wingers to stay further up the pitch," Ferguson said. "But it means that your two wide midfield players have a lot of work to do." With their stamina, neither Keane nor McClair have problems with that, and Ferguson was keen to stress the importance of McClair's contribution this season. "If we could play 12 in a team, McClair would be in," he said. "He is the first person I turn to whenever anyone drops out. He can play in a few positions and any system because he doesn't worry about it."

It is now 17 months since United supporters last left Old Trafford to analyse a league defeat on their way home. Since Lawrie Sanchez secured a 1-0 win for Wimbledon on October 31, 1992, 28 other teams have tried, and failed, to match their achievement. But if the Premiership table suggests Chelsea have little chance, other factors indicate that United's record is at some risk.

Like Wimbledon, who were twentieth at the time, Chelsea will not lack motivation. They are eighteenth, and in need of points. They are also in reasonable form, with just two defeats in their last 13 matches. And, as Ferguson did not need reminding, Chelsea are the only team to have inflicted a league defeat on United this season, Peacock's goal settling the match at Stamford Bridge in September.



McClair: stamina

Peacock will this afternoon try to provide the ammunition for Spencer and Stein to complete an unlikely league double. Spencer has scored in four successive games, and it was two goals against United in a Coca-Cola Cup tie in September that helped clinch Stein's move to London from Stoke City. United are unbeaten in 34 games since then.

Teddy Sheringham will soon know whether he can play a part in Tottenham's survival battle. A verdict will be made after further surgery on Tuesday to his right knee.

Nottingham Forest, who paid Southend United £2 million for Stan Collymore last summer, yesterday signed Jason Lee, the striker Southend bought from Lincoln City as Collymore's replacement, for £200,000. Lee Power, the Norwich City forward, is considering a £250,000 move to Bradford City.

PC worries make colour blind FC

By Keith Pike

THE tentacles of political correctness may finally have latched on to sport. From next season Clifton All Whites, one of the leading youth football clubs in Nottingham, are likely to be known as plain Clifton FC in deference to opponents who harbour suspicions about their membership policy.

The decision, taken by the club's committee, has yet to be ratified. Come what may the club's youngest players, the under-tens, will preserve the All Whites name. "We want to keep it going in some small way," Norman Archer, the club president, said. But for the older teams, colourless conformity beckons.

Of the 250 boys and girls at the club, founded in 1963 and named after its first, all-white, playing strip, Archer estimates that perhaps 15 per cent are non-white. "There has never been a problem within the club," he said. "The boys have no trouble with the name, and there are never any problems when we play teams from our own area. A number of black players have gone on to play professionally."

It is when any of the club's ten teams travel outside Nottingham that difficulties arise.

A few weeks ago, writing to confirm a trip to Holland, Archer felt obliged to add a postscript that Clifton did not operate a colour bar. He now frequently has to offer an explanation first.

One of the club's best-known former players, Michael Johnson, described the prospective change as "really stupid". Johnson, black and now with Notts County, said: "I never had a problem with the name."

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

3.0 kick-off unless stated
* *all-ticket match*

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership

* Blackburn v Liverpool
Everton v Oldham
* Ipswich v Arsenal
Leeds v Southampton
Manchester United v Chelsea
QPR v Manchester City
* Sheffield Wednesday v Newcastle
* Swindon v West Ham
Tottenham v Sheff Utd
Wimbledon v Norwich

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	29	20	8	1	59	27	68
Blackburn	30	18	7	5	44	23	61
Arsenal	30	13	12	5	34	16	51
Newcastle	29	14	6	9	51	30	48
Leeds	29	12	11	6	42	30	47
Liverpool	30	13	8	9	49	40	47
Aston Villa	29	12	10	7	37	28	46
Sheff Wed	29	11	11	7	53	38	44
Norwich	30	10	14	6	49	39	44
QPR	27	11	6	10	42	36	39
Coventry	31	9	11	11	32	37	38
West Ham	29	9	10	10	27	37	37
Ipswich	29	8	12	9	28	32	36
Wimbledon	28	9	9	10	31	39	36
Everton	30	9	6	15	33	41	33
Tottenham	31	7	10	14	40	44	31
Southampton	29	9	3	17	32	41	30
Chelsea	28	7	8	13	30	39	29
Man City	30	6	11	13	25	38	29
Oldham	29	6	9	14	25	49	27
Sheff Utd	29	4	11	14	24	45	23
Swindon	31	4	11	16	35	72	23

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division

Birmingham v Barnsley
Bolton v Charlton
Bristol City v Derby
Middlesbrough v Wolverhampton
Nottingham Forest v Luton
Peterborough v Southend
Portsmouth v Crystal Palace
Sunderland v Notts County
Tranmere v Grimsby
Watford v Oxford Utd
* West Brom v Stoke

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crystal Palace	32	17	8	7	58	37	59
Charlton	31	16	7	8	41	27	55
Leicester	31	15	8	8	52	39	53
Notts Forest	31	14	9	8	49	34	51
Millwall	30	14	9	7	42	34	51
Derby	32	15	5	12	51	47	50
Stoke	32	14	8	10	43	44	50
Notts County	32	15	4	13	46	52	49
Tranmere	31	14	7	10	43	37	49
Wolv'hampton	31	11	13	7	46	31	46
Bristol City	32	12	9	11	34	37	45
Southend	32	13	5	14	46	44	44
Bolton	32	11	10	11	40	38	43
Luton	30	12	5	13	42	38	41
Portsmouth	32	10	11	11	36	44	41
Middlesbrough	29	10	10	9	39	31	40
Sunderland	31	11	6	14	31	38	39
West Brom	32	9	9	14	45	50	36
Grimsby	30	7	14	9	36	36	35
Watford	32	8	7	17	47	64	31
Barnsley	30	8	7	15	38	48	31
Birmingham	33	7	9	17	33	52	30
Oxford Utd	31	7	8	16	33	57	29
Peterborough	31	6	10	15	27	39	28

FA TROPHY: Third round: Bishop Auckland v Enfield; Cheltenham v Guiseley; Gateshead v Merthyr; Macclesfield v Billingham Synthonia; Morecambe v Southport; Runcorn v Halifax; Sutton Utd v Dover; Woking v Bromsgrove.

Second division

Blackpool v Bradford
Bournemouth v Barnet
Brighton v York
Exeter v Huddersfield
Fulham v Burnley
Hull v Cardiff
Leyton Orient v Plymouth
Port Vale v Bristol Rovers
Reading v Wrexham
Rotherham v Cambridge Utd
Stockport v Hartlepool
Swansea v Brentford

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Reading	32	20	7	5	63	32	67
Plymouth	31	17	8	6	59	41	59
Bristol Rovers	32	16	9	7	43	36	57
Stockport	28	16	6	6	49	27	54
Burnley	32	16	5	11	55	39	53
Port Vale	30	14	9	7	47	30	51
Brentford	33	13	12	8	44	33	51
Hull	33	14	8	11	48	44	50
York	32	13	8	11	45	31	47
Leyton Orient	32	12	9	11	42	46	45
Bradford	31	12	9	10	39	37	45
Blackpool	34	13	4	17	50	57	43
Cambridge Utd	33	11	8	14	42	48	41
Bournemouth	29	9	11	9	32	36	38
Wrexham	29	10	7	12	47	52	37
Brighton	31	9	10	12	38	45	37
Swansea	30	9	10	11	34	39	37
Fulham	32	10	5	17	34	44	35
Cardiff	27	8	10	9	43	44	34
Huddersfield	31	8	10	13	32	44	34
Rotherham	29	8	9	12	39	46	33
Exeter	29	7	9	13	37	52	30
Hartlepool	32	5	7	20	25	50	22
Barnet	30	2	8	20	25	57	14

Third division

Chesterfield v Carlisle
Crewe v Walsall
Lincoln v Mansfield
Northampton v Hereford
Rochdale v Colchester
Scarborough v Wigan
Scunthorpe v Chester
Shrewsbury v Darlington
Torquay v Gillingham
Wycombe v Bury

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crewe	29	17	7	5	61	42	58
Chester	30	15	8	7	48	31	53
Shrewsbury	29	15	8	6	48	33	53
*Preston	29	14	8	7	60	41	50
Torquay	30	13	11	6	49	42	50
Wycombe	29	14	8	7	46	39	50
Rochdale	29	12	8	9	47	31	44
Bury	30	13	5	12	47	44	44
Walsall	30	12	8	10	35	37	44
Chesterfield	28	11	6	11	39	43	39
Carlisle	30	10	9	11	37	31	39
Mansfield	31	10	8	13	38	46	38
Scunthorpe	28	9	10	9	43	32	37
Lincoln	29	10	7	12	41	47	37
Colchester	29	10	6	13	44	54	36
Scarborough	31	10	6	15	38	45	36
*Doncaster	30	10	6	14	33	42	36
Gillingham	30	8	10	12	32	38	34
Wigan	28	8	7	13	35	48	31
Darlington	29	6	9	14	33	47	27
Hereford	29	7	5	17	40	57	26
Northampton	29	5	8	16	31	52	23

* not including last night's match.

GM Vauxhall Conference

Bath v Witton
Kettering v Kidderminster
Northwich v Stalybridge
Stafford v Altrincham
Welling v Telford
Yeovil v Slough

Scottish League
Premier division

Aberdeen v Hearts
Dundee v Partick
Hibernian v Raith
Kilmarnock v Dundee Utd
Rangers v Motherwell
St Johnstone v Celtic

First division

Airdrie v Stirling
Brechin v Clydebank
Dumbarton v Falkirk
Dunfermline v Morton
Hamilton v Ayr
St Mirren v Clyde

Second division

Albion v Montrose
Alloa v East Stirling
Berwick v East Fife
Cowdenbeath v Meadowbank
Forfar v Arbroath
Queen's Park v Stenhousemuir
Stranraer v Queen of the South

Beazer Homes League
Premier division

Cambridge City v Burton
Corby Town v Dorchester
Moor Green v Gloucester
Trowbridge v Gresley Rovers

OTHER MATCHES: Bashley v Atherstone; Crawley Town v Hednesford; Farnborough v Halesowen; Nuneaton v Hastings; Sittingbourne v Worcester; Waterlooville v Chelmsford. Midland division: Bedworth Utd v Clevedon Town; Bilston Town v Rushden and Diamonds; Bridgnorth Town v Tamworth, Dudley Town v Forest Green Rovers; Evesham Utd v Armitage; King's Lynn v RC Warwick; Newport AFC v Hinckley Town; Redditch Utd v Grantham Town; Stourbridge v Yate Town; Sutton Coldfield v Leicester Utd; Weston-super-Mare v VS Rugby. Southern division: Ashford Town v Weadstone; Braintree v Salisbury City; Burnham v Buckingham Town; Canterbury City v Baldock Town; Erith and Belvedere v Dunstable; Fareham v Margate; Havant v Fisher 93; Newport IoW v Sudbury; Poole v Tonbridge AFC; Weymouth v Gravesend and Northfleet; Witney v Bury Town.

FA VASE: Quarter-final: Taunton Town v Newbury Town. Replay: Atherton LR v Aldershot Town.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke v Hitchin; Bromley v Molesey; Carshalton v Dulwich; Harrow v Grays; Hendon v Wivenhoe; St Albans v Aylesbury; Stevenage Borough v Kingstonian; Wokingham v Chesham; Yeading v Hayes. First division: Billericay v Berkhamsted; Bognor Regis v Croydon; Boreham Wood v Bishop's Stortford; Chalfont St Peter v Walton and H; Maidenhead v Worthing; Purfleet v Heybridge Swifts; Ruislip Manor v Leyton; Staines v Wembley; Tooting and Mitcham v Whyteleafe; Uxbridge v Barking; Windsor and Eton v Abingdon Town. Second division: Banstead v Hampton; Barton v Chertsey; Collier Row v Malden Vale; Edgware v Leatherhead; Egham v Aveley; Hemel Hempstead v Ware; Tilbury v Saffron Walden; Witham v Met Police. Third division: Clapton v Harefield; Cove v Oxford City; East Thurrock v Kingsbury; Feltham and Hounslow v Cheshunt; Harlow v Tring; Hertford v Horsham; Hornchurch v Bracknell; Leighton v Flackwell Heath; Royston v Northwood; Southall v Epsom and Ewell.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Barrow v Droylsden; Boston United v Bridlington Town; Buxton v Frickley; Chorley v Horwich; Emley v Fleetwood; Gainsborough v Colwyn Bay; Knowsley v Leek; Matlock v Marine; Whitley Bay v Accrington Stanley. First division: Ashton United v Curzon Ashton; Bamber Bridge v Worksop; Farsley Celtic v Congleton; Great Harwood v Spennymoor; Gretna v Mossley; Harrogate v Radcliffe Borough; Lancaster City v Goole; Netherfield v Alfreton; Warrington v Caernarfon; Workington v Eastwood.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Durham City v Dunston FB; Eppleton CW v Consett; Ferryhill Athletic v Chester-le-Street; Hebburn v Murton; Newcastle Blue Star v Guisborough Town; Seaham Red Star v Northallerton; Tow Law v Blyth Spartans; West Auckland v Stockton.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper Town v North Ferriby Utd; Lincoln Utd v Glasshoughton Welfare; Liversedge v Ossett Town; Maltby MW v Stocksbridge PS; Ossett Albion v Denaby Utd; Pontefract Col v Eccleshill Utd; Sheffield v Ashfield Utd, Thackley v Pickering Town; Winterton Rangers v Hucknall Town.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Challenge Cup: Semi-final: Rossendale Utd v Stantondale. First division: Burscough v Skelmersdale Utd. Chadderton v Nantwich Town; Eastwood Hanley v Bradford Park Avenue; Flixton v Kidsgrove Athletic; Glossop North End v Clitheroe; Maine Road v Bootle; Newcastle Town v Bacup Borough; Penrith v Darwen, Salford City v Prescot.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ballyclare v Cliftonville; Bangor v Distillery; Carrick v Ards; Crusaders v Linfield; Glentoran v Coleraine; Larne v Glenavon; Omagh Town v Ballymena; Portadown v Newry.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Ton Pentre (2.0); Bangor v Holywell; Conwy v Caersws; Flint Town United v Mold, Haverfordwest v Briton Ferry; Inter Cardiff v Ebbw Vale (2.30); Maesteg Park v Cwmbran; Newtown v Llansantffraid.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Southampton v Charlton.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford v Exmouth Town; Elmore v Westbury Utd; Liskeard Athletic v Paulton Rovers; Minehead v Crediton Utd; Tiverton Town v Calne Town. Les Phillips Cup: Pewsey Vale v Brislington.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Cup: Chatteris Town v Hadleigh United; Newmarket Town v Woodbridge Town. Premier division: Felixstowe Town v Watton United; Great Yarmouth v Harwich and Parkeston; Halstead Town v Wisbech Town; Haverhill Rovers v Norwich United; Lowestoft Town v Tiptree United; March Town United v Stowmarket Town; Soham Town Rangers v Gorleston; Sudbury Wanderers v Diss Town; Wroxham v Cornard United.

UNIJET SUSSEX LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Ringmer; Chichester City v Crowborough Athletic; Eastbourne Town v Whitehawk; Littlehampton Town v Bexhill Town; Oakwood v Peacehaven and Telscombe; Portfield v Stamco; Three Bridges v Newhaven; Wick v East Grinstead.

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chipstead v Ash United; Cobham v Viking Sports; Cranleigh v Ashford Town; Frimley Green v Hartley Wintney; Godalming and Guildford v Ditton; Merstham v Bedfont; Sandhurst v Farnham, Westfield v Horley.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Chelsea v Millwall; Gillingham v Southend; Leyton Orient v Norwich; QPR v Fulham; Tottenham v Portsmouth; Watford v Cambridge Utd. Second division: Brighton v Southampton; Brentford v Bristol Rovers; Bristol City v Wimbledon, Colchester v Luton; Oxford Utd v Bournemouth; Reading v Swindon.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN SENIOR CUP: Corinthian-Casuals v Old Grammarians. League: Senior One: Old Finchleians v Old Bealonians; Old Owens v Parkfield; Wandsworth Boro v St Marys College; Witan v Nottsborough.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardinal Manning v Old Danes; Old Meadonians v Glyn; Old Wilsonians v Old Aloysians; Old Hamptonians v Old Tenisonians; Old Tiffinians v Old Old Ignatians.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Civil Service v NatWest Bank; Norseman v Old Esthameians; Lensbury v South Bank Poly; Crouch End Vampires v Carshalton; Midland Bank v Winchmore Hill; Old Actonians v West Wickham; Alexandra Park v Old Bromleians; East Barnet OG v Southgate Olympic; Old Parkonians v Ibis; Lloyds Bank v Old Latymerians, Kew Association v Old Stationers; Broomfield v Polytechnic; Old Westminster Citizens v Brentham, Old Salesians v Bank of England, Alleyn OB v Reigate Priory; Royal Bank Scotland v Merton; Old Lyonians v Cuaco; Old Parmiterians v Barclays Bank.

RUGBY LEAGUE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division (2.30): Dudley Hill v Chorley; Saddleworth v Egremont.

BNFL NATIONAL CUP: Fourth round: Askam v Thatto Heath; Dalton v Lock Lane; Heworth v Normanton; Leigh MW v Wath Brow; Mysons v Oldham St Annes; Oulton v East Leeds; Ovenden v Wigan St Patricks; Worth Village v York Acorn.

RUGBY UNION

Five nations' championship
France v England
(at Parc des Princes, 2.0)
Ireland v Scotland
(at Lansdowne Road, 2.45)

International match
France A v England A
(at Jean Bouin Stadium, Paris, 12.0)

Courage Clubs Championship
Fourth division
Leeds v Sheffield

Fifth division north
Birmingham/Solihull v Rotherham (2.30)

Heineken Welsh League
First division
2.30 kick-off
Aberavon v Pontypool
Cardiff v Neath
Dunvant v Cross Keys
Newbridge v Llanelli
Newport v Pontypridd
Swansea v Bridgend

Second division
Ebbw Vale v Abertillery
Glamorgan W v South Wales Police
Maesteg v Llanharan
Mountain Ash v Llandovery
Tenby Utd v Narberth
Treorchy v Penarth

Club matches
Basingstoke v Sutton and Epsom (2.30)
Berry Hill v Lichfield (2.30)
Bracknell v Reading (2.30)
Bradford and B v Cambridge Univ (3.0)
Brixham v Weston-super-Mare (2.30)
Broughton Park v Stourbridge
Clifton v Walsall (2.30)
Durham Univ v Vale of Lune
Havant v Salisbury (2.30)
Kendal v Liverpool St Helens (2.30)
London Welsh v Rosslyn Park (2.45)
Maidstone v Sidcup
Met Police v Richmond (11.0)
Middlesbrough v Aspatria (2.30)
Morley v West Hartlepool
Nottingham v Bedford (12.0)
Plymouth v Hereford
Preston Gr v Birkenhead Park
Sale v Newcastle Gosforth
Saracens v Blackheath (12.0)
St Ives v Redruth (2.30)
Stoke-on-Trent v Widnes
Stroud v Nuneaton (2.30)
Tabard v Hertfordshire (2.30)
Torquay Athletic v Camborne (2.30)
Wakefield v Harlequins
Waterloo v Fylde (2.15)
Askeans v Guy's Hospital (11.0)

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE (7.30): Hemel Hempstead v Guildford; London Towers v Oldham; Manchester v Chester; Sunderland v Leicester.

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Brixton Topcats v Coventry Flyers; Stockton Mohawks v Solent Stars.

MEN'S NATIONAL CUP: Final: Thames Valley v Worthing (7.0).

MEN'S NATIONAL TROPHY: Final: Plymouth v Sheffield.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Rhondda v Ipswich; Thames Valley Ladies v Chester Cats. National Cup: Final: Northampton v Sheffield.

HOCKEY

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Bedford v Cambridge Univ; Bishop's Stortford v Westcliff; Bury St Edmunds v Blueharts; Crostyx v Colchester; Luton v Dereham; Norwich City v Peterborough Town; Old Southendians v Chelmsford; Pelicans v Redbridge and Ilford; Stevenage v Ipswich.

EARNEST AND YOUNG MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Coventry and North Warwickshire v Bloxwich; Finchfield v Belper; Leicester Westleigh v Hampton in Arden; Olton and West Warwickshire v Khalsa; Worcester Norton v Lichfield.

ERNST AND YOUNG NORTH LEAGUE: Alderley Edge v Blackburn; Formby v Southport; Hightown-Northern v Durham University; Timperley v Norton; York v Ben Rhydding.

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier division: City of Portsmouth v Chichester; Dulwich v Staines; Fareham v Anchorians, Gore Court v Old Kingstonians; Hendon v High Wycombe; Maidenhead v Hampstead and Wm; Mid Sussex v Lyons; Old Walcountians v Wimbledon, Oxford Hawks v Spencer; Winchester v Tulse Hill. Regionals: Hampshire/Surrey: Barclays Bank v Basingstoke; Bournemouth v Epsom; Camberley v Woking; Cheam v Weybridge Hawks; Lensbury v Purley; London University v Oxshott, Merton v Old Tauntonians; Old Edwardians v Barnes, Old Whitgiftians v Old Mid Whitgiftians; Petersfield v Fleet. Kent/Sussex: Beckenham v Gravesend; Bexleyheath v Blackheath; Bognor v Brighton; Lewes v Marden Russets; Old Holcombeians v Horsham, Old Williamsonians v Old Bordenians; Sevenoaks v Eastbourne; Tonbridge v Lloyds Bank; Tunbridge Wells v Crawley; Worthing v Herne Bay. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Amersham v Marlow; Aylesbury v Bracknell; Milton Keynes v Mill Hill; Morris Motors v Hayes; NPL v HCC; OMT v Harrow; Ramgarhia v Gerrards Cross; Richings Park v Eastcote; Sunbury v City of Oxford; Wokingham v Ashford.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Clifton v Hightown; Ealing v Chelmsford; FP Sutton Coldfield v Ipswich; Slough v Balsam Leicester. First division: Bluehearts v Exmouth; Bradford Swithenbank v Wimbledon; Pickwick v Doncaster; Trojans v Bracknell. Second division: Colwall v Woking; Harleston Magpies v Gt Harwood; Olton v Sherwood; Sunderland Bedans v Canterbury.

WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY MATCH: Oxford v Cambridge (North Oxford, 1.0).

NETBALL

ENGLISH COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Birmingham v Mid Hampshire (Stockland Green, Birmingham, 2.0); Surrey v Essex Met (Epsom College, 1.0); Hampshire North v Middlesex (Russell Howard Centre); East Essex v Bedfordshire (Markhams Chase, Basildon)

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Wessex v Tooting Aquila; Polonia Ealing v Whitefield Sporteet; Reebok Liverpool City v KLEA Leeds; Newcastle v Team Mizuno Malory Lewisham.

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: World indoor championships (Preston Guild Hall).

FENCING: Martini Men's Epee (Seymour Hall, London)

TOMORROW

3.0 kick-off unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership
Coventry v Aston Villa (4.0)

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
Millwall v Leicester

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division (3.30): Group A: Bohemians v Shamrock; Cork City v Galway; Derry City v Shelbourne. Group B: Dundalk v Monaghan; Limerick v Cobh Ramblers.

FA WOMEN'S CUP: Semi-finals: Leasowe Pacific v Doncaster Belles (at Southport); Stanton Rangers v Knowsley Utd (at Ilkeston).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter championship
Featherstone v Sheffield (3.30)
Hull KR v Castleford (3.15)
Leeds v Oldham
Leigh v Wigan
Wakefield v St Helens (3.30)
Warrington v Bradford
Widnes v Hull

Second division
Barrow v Hunslet (3.15)
Carlisle v Doncaster
Dewsbury v Workington (3.30)
Highfield v Batley
Huddersfield v Swinton (3.30)
Rochdale v Bramley
Ryedale York v London Crusaders (3.15)
Whitehaven v Keighley

RUGBY UNION

Tour match
North v Canada A
(at Fylde, 2.30)

Club Match
Racing Club de Paris v Wasps

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Doncaster v Worthing (5.0); Leicester v Chester (6.0).

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Brixton Topcats v Coventry Flyers; Stockton Mohawks v Solent Stars. Second division: London Elephants v Guildford Storm; Swindon Sonics v Liverpool Atac.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: London Jets v Nottingham Wildcats. Second division: Luton Accs v Doncaster Free Press; Plymouth Racers v Manchester Flames.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Sale v Britannia Music City.

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Bromley v Reading (Priory Leisure Centre, Orpington, 2.0); Cannock v Trojans (Morris Ground, 2.30); Canterbury v St Albans (Polo Farm, 1.0), East Grinstead v Indian Gymkhana (Saint Hill, 2.15); Havant v Slough (Havant College, 2.15); Hounslow v Southgate (Chiswick Boathouse, 2.0); Old Loughtonians v Firebrands (Chigwell, 2.30); Teddington v Bournville (Lensbury Club, 1.0), Welton v Stourport (Orchard Park, Hull, 2.0). Second division: Beeston v Barford Tigers (Birmingham University, 12.0); Brooklands v Neston (The Pavilions, Sale, 1.45); Cambridge City v Isca (Hinchingbrooke School, Huntingdon, 2.0); Cheltenham v Warrington (Bournside School, 2.0); Edgbaston v Doncaster (Birmingham University, 2.0); Guildford v Gloucester City (Kings Manor School, 12.0); Harborne v Surbiton (Birmingham University, 2.30); Oxford University v Richmond (North Oxford Sports Ground, 2.0); Sheffield v Harleston Magpies (Abbeydale Park, 12.30).

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: World indoor championships (Preston Guild Hall).

SPEED SKATING: British championships (Humberside Ice Arena, Hull).

Saturday portrait: Richard Dunwoody by Andrew Longmore

Cheltenham festival will be like Hamlet without 'The Prince'

ILLUSTRATION: STEVE MARTIN



At Nottingham this week, Adrian Maguire discovered that coming between a man and his obsession can be a dangerous pursuit. Maguire was lucky. Fates far worse than bruised pride have awaited those rash enough to take liberties with champions and the muted response of his colleagues when the young Irishman returned fuming to the weighing-room carried a message far blunter than the guard-rail into which he and Mr Geneaology had just been deposited in the closing stages of the Junior Selling Hurdle. Well, if you will mess with the Prince.

"The Prince" is Richard Dunwoody, the champion National Hunt jockey who is still best known for his partnership with Desert Orchid. Last Tuesday, Maguire made a profound misjudgment of character. Whether in an argument, on the squash court, on the road or the racecourse, Dunwoody concedes nothing, least of all to a rival who is laying strong claims to the jockeys' championship, the possession he has prized more than any other since his boyhood days in County Down.

Had Maguire thought for just a second before sneaking up the inside of Dunwoody and a young hurdler called Raggerty, he would have known that his fate was sealed. Doubtless the champion reaffirmed the point when the pair stopped for a drink on the way home that night. By then, Dunwoody was contemplating a two-week ban which put him out of the Cheltenham festival later this month, the latest trouble in a tiresome first season with Martin Pipe, and Maguire was considering a sharp lesson in racecourse etiquette. Maguire, who leads the championship by four from Dunwoody with little more than three months to go, might steal the title, but not through the back door.

Dunwoody plans to go on holiday with his wife Carol during Cheltenham week, unable to watch others taking advantage of a host of fancied rides. When he returns he might find that the public's perception of him has been changed far more by one display of devilry than by victories in a Grand National (West Tip), a Cheltenham Gold Cup (Charter Party) and a Champion Hurdle (Kribensis). Until now, the betting shop brigade have accorded Dunwoody respect but never affection. But, with one mighty shove, he has passed into folklore.

Inside the weighing-room, Dunwoody is known as a relentless perfectionist, a fearsome competitor and a loyal friend. But he can also be aloof, cantankerous, stubborn and downright moody, particularly if he has had to waste his tall frame to the very limit of endurance. Outside, he comes across as intense and shy, very much a disciple of the Peter Scudamore school of reclusive professionalism rather than the John Francome academy of instinctive brilliance and jolly japes. On the track, he is acknowledged as the most complete jockey of his generation.

> **'He's like Piggott. His intensity, his sheer passion for winning. Sometimes it can be frightening'**

A bad ride by Dunwoody is as rare as one of his castellated smiles. He can relax pent-up horses, galvanise the idlers, master the temperamental and ride a finish as powerful and rhythmic as many Flat-race jockeys. He has, say the experts, a near perfect riding position, allied to good hands, quick brain and an ability to present a horse at a fence, in other words to measure stride and anticipate distance so accurately that the horse's flow is not stemmed for an instant. The skill was inherited from his father, an amateur jockey and part-time trainer, and honed during a youth spent so much on horseback in northern Ireland and, when the family moved to England, in Newmarket, that an impressive academic career was doomed long before he became a professional jockey in 1984.

Yet it is still his single-minded dedication to the art of winning which marks Dunwoody out from all but the best and which encourages a comparison not with Scudamore or Francome, Winter or Pat Taaffe. "He's like (Lester) Piggott. His intensity, his sheer passion for winning. It's frightening sometimes," Michael Caulfield, the secretary of the Jockeys Association, neighbour and a long-time friend, said.

The measurement is not quite as far fetched as it sounds. The tall figure, trimmed to the bone by the tyranny of diet and the sauna, the frown of concentration, the unhurried assurance, the coolness on the big occasion. There is something distinctly Piggottesque in Dunwoody's record of winning the National, Gold Cup and Champion Hurdle by the age of 26 when only Bobby Beasley and Fred Winter had managed the feat before.

The only surprise was that it took nearly ten years for the spectacular notices advertising Dunwoody as a future champion jockey to be fulfilled. Mostly, that was due to the domination of Francome and Scudamore, but Dunwoody took time to learn his trade so that when he graduated from the stable of Captain Tim Forster to become first jockey to David Nicholson, he was ready for the moment.

"The Duke" and "The Prince" were a formidable combination, each goading the other to perfection, as ready to hurl brickbats as to lavish praise. Nicholson called Dunwoody the greatest National Hunt jockey he had seen since the War — a title he has since transferred to Maguire, his present jockey — and Dunwoody rewarded his master with a series of outstanding rides, notably on Charter Party in the 1988 Gold Cup and Waterloo Boy in the Arkle Trophy in 1989. With Nicholson's backing, he has been champion in terms of prize-money for the past four seasons. But his associations with West Tip and above all, Desert Orchid, brought him to the attention of a wider audience. Dunwoody and Dessie were poetry.

Yet Dunwoody can derive as much satisfaction from guiding a hare-brained novice safely round his first racecourse. Caulfield recalls with horror watching Dunwoody crash through the first two fences on a 66-1 no-hoper at Aintree. Later, when the pair had completed their adventure safely, he called up Dunwoody to ask what on earth he was doing. "I loved every minute of it and I got him round, didn't I?", Dunwoody replied triumphantly. Anything to make the adrenalin flow and to stimulate the wilder side of his nature, which once brought him to the attention of the police after an awards' dinner.

He would have been forgiven for drowning his sorrows once or twice over the past few months as Pipe's stable has failed to provide the flow of winners Dunwoody expected and Nicholson and Maguire have gone from strength to strength. But adversity has brought out another side of Dunwoody. Equally determined, but more relaxed, more mature and dignified. If it is right that defeat marks out a true champion, Dunwoody has passed the test.

At the low point of his winter, he chose to ride Egypt Mill Prince instead of Pipe's Fragrant Dawn in the Tripleprint Gold Cup at Cheltenham. Fragrant Dawn won comfortably and the weighing-room braced itself for explosion. "But he laughed and put an arm round my shoulder," Caulfield recalled. "Two years ago he would have been suicidal." At the age of 30, Dunwoody might be starting to thaw, but Adrian Maguire, for one, would not wish to bet on it.

Break turns sour for Mickelson

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN MIAMI

PHIL Mickelson, the man whom many regard as the best young player in the world, gave this week's Doral-Ryder Open in Florida a miss to get in a little rest and relaxation on the ski slopes of Flagstaff, Arizona.

Now, however, he faces a rather longer period of R and R than he anticipated for on Thursday he crashed into a tree and broke his leg.

It is a setback of significant proportions for the 23-year-old left-hander, who started the year by winning the Tournament of Champions in California and is second on the money-list with over $315,000 already, for he will undoubtedly miss the Masters next month.

Prophetically, the precocious Mickelson, who has won four times on the US tour, once as an amateur, was asked about his skiing at the beginning of the year but dismissed the dangers with all the insouciance of youth. "I know how to ski," he said, "and I know how to fall. Besides, I'm young and I'm a quick healer."

Now he has the chance to find out just how long it takes to recover from a broken femur.

Meanwhile, down here at sea level, Jim Thorpe and Raymond Floyd, two veterans of the fairways, shared the lead after a wind-blown first round on the Blue Monster course at Doral. They shot 68, four under par, on a day when only 14 players broke par and 14 failed to break 80, including Jack Nicklaus and Johnny Miller. Miller, who is essentially retired and described his win in the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am a month ago as a fluke, subsequently withdrew, citing his notoriously wonky knees. Nicklaus, partnered with Nick Faldo, who shot 73, was set to venture out again late yesterday in calmer conditions.

Floyd, who last won here two years ago, owed his opening round to an immaculate short game. He missed ten greens but had only 21 putts and did not drop a shot. Although he is now over 50, Floyd is expected to do well here — he has won three times — but Thorpe, at 45, is more of a surprise.

EARLY LEADING SECOND-ROUND SCORES (US unless stated): 142: N Lancaster 71, 71. 144: Joe Ozaki (Japan) 75, 69; B Lohr 72, 72; F Funk 73, 71. 145: C Strange 73, 72; C Beck 74, 71. 146: E Fiori 75, 71; M Calcavecchia 74, 72; D Pruitt 73, 73. L Wadkins 79, 67; V Singh (Fiji) 72, 74. 148: N Price (SA) 75, 73.

Brand back in Fantasy Land

FROM MEL WEBB IN TORREVIEJA, SPAIN

A NEW method of advancing to the top of the leaderboard was revealed on the second day of the Turespaña Open Mediterrania at Villamartin yesterday — troop round Disney World for a week with your daughter on your shoulders, then paddle round in the snow at home for a few days before breaking in your new set of golf clubs on the local driving range. The man with the secret was Gordon J Brand, who shared the lead at the end of the day.

Brand, a droll Yorkshireman, had a faultless round of 66 for a total of 134, ten under par, the same as Juan Quirós, who matched his opening round of 67.

Brand played the opening five tournaments of the year, making the cut in four of them until, deciding it was time for a break, he went with his wife and two daughters to the Florida sun for a week, most of which was spent in the company of Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck and the rest.

When the family returned home to Ilkley, Brand took delivery of his new clubs, but was prevented from using them by nine inches of snow. He finally put them to the test for the first time when he went along to the driving range and hit some balls. The clubs having passed the audition, he came to Spain, had a 68 in the first round and shot the lights out in the second.

He has had more than his share of back trouble in his time, and had a small scare when he started to feel some aches and pains after his return from the United States. "I went to the doctor to see if it was the old disc trouble flaring up again, but he said it was because I'd spent most of the previous week carrying my daughter Lizzie round on my shoulders," he said. "It obviously didn't do me much harm."

Brand, among whose more obscure claims to fame is that he once played the cornet in a band representing a sauce factory, had six birdies and was never really in danger of dropping a shot. Starting from the 10th, he birdied the 11th from three feet and holed an eight-footer to pick up another shot on the 18th. He had four more birdies on the return nine with a 25-foot putt on the 8th the high spot of the day.

He and Lyn, his wife, once owned a small farm above Ilkley, where they kept all manner of animals. It was not a success, Brand admits, so they came down out of "them thar hills" and set up home in the town.

"The only animals we keep now are goldfish," Brand said. "You don't lose money on goldfish." If that is not droll, what is?

Lurking dangerously one shot off the lead is Jose Maria Olazábal, who continued, amazingly, to claim that he was still not playing very well. He did admit to being hot with his putter, though, using it only 24 times in his course-record 65, which was equalled by Russell Claydon.

Olazábal, who is making swing changes in his search for more consistency, said it was his best putting round since he broke the Gleneagles course record with a 62 in the Scottish Open seven years ago. Olazábal has finished ninth and second in his two European appearances this season, and remains the man to beat this weekend.

It was a day of low scoring on the tree-lined Villamartin course. There were two other 66s, another 67, from Peter Mitchell, who overcame the handicap of having an infected leg, and a host of 68s.

Severiano Ballesteros did not like the course, and said so after handing in a card of 73 and so missing the cut by a shot. "I find it a little sad we're playing in these conditions in 1994," he said after getting a flier off a part of the fifth fairway that had been missed by the mowers.



Mitchell: defied handicap

SCORES

SECOND-ROUND LEADERS (GB and Ire unless stated): 134: J Quiros (Sp) 67, 67; G J Brand 66, 68. 135: J-M Olazábal (Sp) 70 65. 136: A Johnstone (Zim) 68, 68. 137: L Westwood 68, 69; D Ray 69, 68; R Claydon 72, 65. 138: D A Russell 68, 69; R Allenby (Aus) 70, 68; P McGinley 70, 68; F Nobilo (NZ) 68, 70. 139: P Mitchell 72, 67; M-A Jimenez (Sp) 70, 69; E Romero (Arg) 67, 72; K Eriksson (Swe) 67, 72; M Harwood (Aus) 68, 71. 140: M Nichols 70, 70; H Clark 72, 68; M Zerman (I) 70, 70; R Chapman 74, 66; D W Basson (SA) 71, 69; R Karlsson (Swe) 72, 68; S Bottomley 72, 68; D Hospital (Sp) 72, 68; J Rivero (Sp) 69, 71. A Bossert (Switz) 70, 70. 141: P Golding 68, 73; A Garrido (Sp) 68, 75; S Watson 69, 72; M Gronberg (Swe) 69, 72, P Fowler (Aus) 69, 72; S Grappasonni (It) 71, 70; I Garrido (Sp) 72, 69. 142: A Cotton 71, 71; R Lee 70, 72; B Nelson (US) 68, 74; D R Jones 76, 66; M Clayton (Aus) 72, 70; W Riley (Aus) 71, 71; P Watson 72, 70; M Gates 70, 72; P Lawrie 71, 71; I Palmer (SA) 71 71.143: J McHenry 72 71; M Besancenay (Fr) 68, 75; M Lanner (Swe) 73, 70; J Van de Velde (Fr) 72, 71.

Thomson in final after early setbacks

BY GORDON ALLAN

ANDY Thomson, born in St Andrews but now living in London, reached the final of the Churchill Insurance world indoor bowls singles championship for the first time when he beat Stephen Rees of Swansea 1-7, 1-7, 7-4, 7-4, 7-1 in Preston yesterday. Tomorrow he plays Richard Corsie, of Edinburgh, the holder.

It is the final predicted by many, but in Thomson's case it was not achieved without a crisis or two along the road. Rees ran away with the first two sets while Thomson was failing to find either length or line.

The tide began to turn in the third set. Rees led 4-1 but Thomson worked himself back into form, and the match, with three consecutive counts of two for the set. At 2-1 in this set Rees had just missed trailing the jack for four, scoring only two, and he saw this as a turning point.

Thomson's dogged recovery continued in the fourth, and in the fifth he completed it. Rees was still playing well but Thomson by then was playing better. Thomson said he had never made such a comeback before at this level.

Corsie qualified for the final when he beat Mark McMahon, of Hong Kong, 7-3, 7-1, 2-7, 7-4. There were none of the heroics of Corsie's match against Ian Taylor 24 hours earlier. Corsie said he felt full of confidence and his play reflected this.

He usually finished nearer the jack with his first and second bowls and when a man does that he is unlikely to lose. Corsie hurried through the first two sets, was pegged back in the third and led 6-0 in the fourth before McMahon managed to apply some pressure.

Corsie goes into the final trying to become the first player to win the title for a fourth time and claim the record £25,000 first prize.

Rees and John Price lost their pairs semi-final in straight sets on Thursday to Thomson and Gary Smith, the holders.

RESULTS: Singles: Semi-finals: R Corsie (Scot) bt M McMahon (HK) 7-3, 7-1, 2-7, 7-4; A Thomson (Eng) bt S Rees (Wales) 1-7, 1-7, 7-4, 7-4, 7-1.

Johnson's gamble may prove costly

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

BRIAN Johnson, the Warrington coach, readily concedes that should his side lose at home tomorrow to Bradford Northern, the first division leaders, the Stones Bitter rugby league championship would effectively be a two-horse race between Bradford and Wigan.

For the Cheshire side's part, proceeding with the match is a gamble in itself, with fitness bulletins awaited on four players — Jonathan Davies, Allan Bateman, Kevin Ellis and Rowland Phillips — after they represented Wales in the John Smith's international against France last night.

On the premise that points are better in the bag, Bradford, not surprisingly, agreed to play, particularly as they had only two players on duty in Cardiff — Gerald Cordle and Daio Powell.

Wigan, in search of a fifth consecutive championship title, play at the bottom-placed club, Leigh, tomorrow. They are likely to be forced to play ten league games in the last four weeks and could be more vulnerable to such a heavy schedule than in the recent past.

Castleford, in fourth place, are just about out of the championship running, but their form of late has been exemplary, with 194 points notched in four successive wins. They should maintain their high-scoring run in their visit to relegation-threatened Hull Kingston Rovers. Oldham's plight, one place above Leigh, who appear already doomed, is likely to worsen at Leeds.

Bright Sodje, the former Blackheath rugby union winger, has joined Wakefield Trinity on loan from Hull KR and is expected to make his debut at home against St Helens, who are hoping Jonathan Griffiths and Anthony Sullivan will be fit after their exertions in Cardiff.

☐ In an inaugural international in Casablanca, the Great Britain amateur youth side defeated Morocco 48-14. John Riley, of Blackbrook, and Mike Morris, of Leigh Miners, both scored three tries.

Intrum and rivals race neck and neck for Cape Horn



Lawrie Smith describes the great strain on rig and keel and crew as they prepare for fresh storms

WE ARE having the race of our lives. Our yacht, *Intrum Justitia*, is only three miles behind the two leading rivals, *Tokio* and *Galicia 93*, each exactly 2,076 miles from Punta del Este, as we close on Cape Horn. This fourth leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race has turned into a giant game of chess with some of us accepting what we hope are short term losses for a winning move later.

Three days ago, we took the decision to climb northwards to avoid the prospect of headwinds dashing our final approach. In doing so, we sacrificed our lead but are now 100 miles to windward and sailing at a better slant to the winds. We are bowling along with sheets eased, making good speed while *Tokio* was struggling in the 10-15 knot north-westerly winds.

These are calm conditions compared to what we have been through, but judging from the latest weather charts this is merely the lull before yet another storm. Seven low pressure systems are stacked up behind us, promising to sweep across the fleet this weekend and show Cape Horn at its worst. Right now, my main concern is not the weather but Matt Humphries on the British yacht *Dolphin & Youth Challenge*.

Bad conditions are the last thing a crew want when the bolts holding their keel in place are breaking under the strain. Matt reported their predicament over the radio on Thursday telling us how the seven-ton lead fin has begun to work loose under the pressure.

Memories of *Drum*, the Whitbread yacht I sailed aboard during the first leg of the 1985 race, capsizing during the Fastnet race that year, and of *Martella*, which turned over shortly after rounding Cape Horn during this race four years ago, came flooding back. Both yachts lost their keels with such suddenness that their crews had only seconds to clamber up on to the up-turned hulls. Matt and his team will now be living in their survival suits as a precaution against a similar catastrophe happening in these freezing waters.

Other yachts are within their vicinity, including Brad Butterworth and his *Winston* crew who turned round to search for *Brooksfield* when contact was lost with her crew in the Indian Ocean. They are three to four hours sailing distance away while Dawn Riley's women on *Heineken* are following almost directly in *Dolphin's* wake about 100 miles astern.

We also hear that the Chilean navy is on standby to help. *The Galvarino*, a helicopter supply ship, is at Cape Horn to see us round safely, and a rescue helicopter has flown down in case an emergency arises. Cape Horn may be one of the bleakest and loneliest outposts in the world, but it is amazing what can be mustered when safety is at stake.

Driving hard for the Cape ourselves, with the windward ballast tanks charged full and spray flying across the deck with the power of a fire hydrant, I can't help but wonder how these boats take the pounding we give them. The strain on both rig and keel is enormous and will expose any weak links in their engineering.

Thankfully we have broken very little so far on this leg and now have the hammer down on this final sprint, expected to round sometime tomorrow. The mood on board is buoyant, but all of us will be happy when we finally turn up into the Atlantic and begin heading for home. In the meantime, fingers are crossed that we'll be first at the Cape — and for the boys of *Dolphin & Youth*.

POSITIONS (at 14.06 GMT yesterday with miles to Punta del Este): Whitbread 60 class: 1, Galicia 93 Pescanova (J de la Gandara, Sp) 2,076; 2, Tokyo (C Dixon, NZ) 2,076; 3, Interim Justitia (L Smith, GB) 2,079; 4, Yamaha (R Field, NZ) 2,198; 5, Winston (B Butterworth, US) 2,217; 6, Dolphin & Youth Challenge (M Humphries, GB) 2,268; 7, Brooksfield (G Maiolo, It) 2,324; 8, Heineken (D Riley, US) 2,353; 9, Hetman Sahaidachny (E Platon, Ukr) 2,593; 10, Odessa (A Verce, Ukr) 2,741. Maxi class: 1, New Zealand Endeavour (G Dalton, NZ) 2,103; 2, Merit Cup (P Fehrmann, Swi) 2,193; 3, La Poste (E Tabarly, Fr) 2,239; 4 Uruguay Natural (G Venzini, Uru) 2,746.

Weekend games will provide test of Atherton's leadership

Vital for England to bounce back

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN PORT OF SPAIN

ONLY in the darkest moments of their preparation can England's cricketers have imagined that this weekend of one-day cricket in mid-tour would mean so much to them. It is not winning which consumes their thoughts today, so much as the need to restore sagging self-belief before it is too late.

On the heels of a Test defeat which exposed too many frailties, Wednesday's debacle in St Vincent has threatened the foundations of a tour party chosen for its freshness and vitality. It is difficult to retain such enthusiasms when your cricket has been mocked by a West Indian side some way short of its best vintage.

England's sorry state here yesterday morning was symbolic. There had been room on the flight from St Vincent for only half the team's baggage, so the hotel lobby was full of dishevelled, unshaven cricketers and the scheduled practice session at Queen's Park Oval was postponed until late in the day.

So too, was selection for the first of these final two games in the one-day series, games in which England's priority is not so much to reverse their 2-1 deficit as to recover lost pride.

"It is the Test series which counts," the team manager, Keith Fletcher, said, "and we have only played one Test yet. It isn't going to be easy from now on. But it is important that we use these games to get people playing as they can, rather than as they did on Wednesday. We were dreadful in St Vincent, really embarrassingly bad, but anybody who has played one-day cricket knows that every good side has a day like that once a year.

"Hopefully, that was our one. If we win tomorrow, it will be forgotten, because that is the way of one-day cricket, but I will not be so concerned about losing these games so long as we compete."

The inquest into what must be one of the worst one-day performances by any England side began in the dressing-room in the hour which followed the debacle. A more considered debate on what went wrong, and how to put it right, was planned for a team meeting last night.

Fletcher confirmed that "a different team" would do duty today and it can be assumed that Mark Ramprakash and Ian Salisbury, who have both endured several weeks of inactivity, will each play at least once over the weekend.

In the absence of Devon Malcolm, Fletcher sees Salisbury as England's most attacking bowler and his reservations about exposing him to the frenetic batting of instant cricket will now be shelved.

"He's getting fed up not playing," Fletcher explained, "and he really needs some cricket." Salisbury will definitely play in the four-day game against the West Indies Board President's XI in Georgetown, which starts next Thursday, and the long-range intention is that he will also play in the second Test.

Just conceivably, England could include both their specialist spin bowlers there and field the sort of attack, with only two front-line seam bowlers, that Australia successfully employed all last summer.

More immediately, this weekend's games, each to be watched by capacity crowds of 25,000, present Michael Atherton with a serious examination of his leadership ability. He has won plenty of friends and admirers in the seven months since his appointment and, as one who never betrays his inner emotions, he remains superficially untroubled by recent events, even when yesterday's delayed baggage left him with only the T-shirt and shorts in which he stood.

The fact is, however, that he made one horrifying error in putting West Indies in to bat on Wednesday and arguably followed it with another by demoting himself in the order at a time when his opening pairing with Alec Stewart was England's most dependable asset. Add to this the failings of one or two of the players for whom he fought when this party was selected, notably Chris Lewis, and the pressure on Atherton is noticeably rising.

By contrast, Richie Richardson is a serenely confident man. Ragged edges threatened when he, among others, turned up late for the first one-day international, which West Indies not only lost but took too lightly. Such complacency now seems light years ago.

Richardson's only problem today is an enviable one, the option of recalling Courtney Walsh after an ankle strain. Yesterday, ominously for England, Richardson promised: "We're looking forward to winning every match. That's our goal." The way things stand, it may not be prudent to bet against it.

SQUADS

WEST INDIES: R B Richardson (capt), D L Haynes, P V Simmons, B C Lara, K L T Arthurton, R C Haynes, J C Adams, R A Harper, C E L Ambrose, C A Walsh, A C Cummins, W K M Benjamin, K C G Benjamin.
ENGLAND: M A Atherton (capt), A J Stewart, R A Smith, G A Hick, M R Ramprakash, M P Maynard, N Hussain, G P Thorpe, C C Lewis, I D K Salisbury, P C R Tufnell, A R C Fraser, S L Watkin, A R Caddick.

Hughes and McDermott put Australia in control

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK IN JOHANNESBURG

AFTER choosing to bat and starting out in almost too much of a hurry, South Africa were bowled out for 251 when the first Test match started here yesterday. Left with six overs' batting, Australia were 34 without loss at the close.

It was an entertaining, sometimes frenetic days' cricket, watched by too few people. The ground was perhaps one-third full. Fortunes fluctuated greatly, affected hardly at all by Shane Warne, who had to wait until the 49th over before being asked to bowl and was only moderately threatening in the 14 overs that he was given.

After 50 minutes' play South Africa were 51 for one; by lunch they were 103 for three; afterwards they were 126 for six. Rhodes and Richardson then added 68 in 59 balls, which spared South Africa from being bowled out for something inadequate. They are in a vulnerable enough position as it is.

Although nine of them got into double figures, only Rhodes passed 50. Three of them — Hudson, McMillan and Richardson — looked unlucky to be given out. Hudson by David Shepherd, the Englishman, the other two by Barry Lambson, of South Africa, who is also on the new international panel.

The television replay, so dreaded by umpires, showed a steeply climbing ball from McDermott to have brushed not Hudson's glove or bat but his shirt on its way to the wicketkeeper. McMillan was given out caught at short leg when, in fact, he had withdrawn his bat; and it was a job to see how the googly with which Warne had Richardson leg-before could have hit the stumps. However, that is all in the game.

It was a mostly overcast day. Had there been any grass on the pitch the ball would probably have moved all over the place. As it was, it occasionally did just enough to keep Hughes and McDermott interested. They each finished with three wickets. The stocky, left-handed Gary Kirsten, half brother to Peter, was bowled off the inside edge by one from Hughes that swung into him. He had played most estimably. Wessels looked to have taken root when he edged Hughes low to second slip.

But the main setback for South Africa came when Cronje, trying to run Steve Waugh down to third man, presented Border, at first slip, with his 153rd catch in his 154th Test match. Before this, South Africa seemed set fair, the score being 70 for one in only the nineteenth over. Cronje had off driven his fourth ball beautifully for four and hooked his ninth for another, Hughes being the bowler each time. The ball that got him out was too full a length for his stroke. Perhaps he was finding it all a little easier than it is.

But there was Jonty to come, South Africa's sporting idol. There is hardly a boy or a dog in the country that is not being called Jonty after Jonathan Rhodes. Yesterday he played a splendidly jaunty yet well-judged innings. His footwork is a joy to watch and he so obviously loves what he is doing. Coming in at 116 for four, he had seen South Africa through their first crisis of the series by the time he was ninth out, hooking McDermott to long leg.

Mark Taylor's absence from the match with flu has given Hayden the chance of a first cap, and Australia still have as good a player as Dean Jones looking for a game. Hughes's Test is his first since an operation on his knee stopped him huffing and puffing, and his return predictably led to the one distasteful moment of the day.

Not satisfied with bowling Gary Kirsten in the last over of the morning, Hughes ran up to him as he walked out and as good as spat in his face. At times like this, I find myself thinking that it is a pity cricketers cannot be sent off. If they could, Hughes would usually be a short-priced favourite to be the first to go.

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings

A C Hudson c Healy b McDermott	17
G Kirsten b Hughes	47
W J Cronje c Border b S R Waugh	21
*K C Wessels c Hayden b Hughes	18
P N Kirsten b May	12
J N Rhodes c M E Waugh b McDermott	69
B M McMillan c Boon b May	0
S J Richardson lbw b Warne	31
C R Matthews c Boon b Hughes	6
P S de Villiers b McDermott	16
A A Donald not out	0
Extras (b 1, lb 10, nb 3)	14
Total	251

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-70, 3-103, 4-116, 5-126, 6-126, 7-194, 8-203, 9-249.

BOWLING: McDermott 15.2-3-53-3 (nb 3); Hughes 20-6-59-3; May 22-5-62-2; S R Waugh 9.2-1-14-1; Warne 14-4-42-1

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

M J Slater not out	26
M L Hayden not out	6
Extras (b 1, lb 1)	2
Total (no wkt)	34

D C Boon, M E Waugh, S R Waugh, *A R Border, †I A Healy, M G Hughes, S K Warne, T B A May and C J McDermott to bat.

BOWLING: Donald 4-0-20-0; de Villiers 3-1-12-0

Umpires: S B Lambson (South Africa) and D R Shepherd (England).



PAUL VELASCO

McDermott, of Australia, appeals successfully for a catch at the wicket to dismiss Hudson yesterday

Booking your place in the cricket bible's roll of honour



SIMON BARNES
On Saturday

THE search is on for this column's five readers of the year. I seek five readers who combine intuitive flair, skill, knowledge and dumb luck. I ask readers to predict the identities of the five *Wisden* cricketers of the year. For prizes, I have, or will have, five copies of *Wisden 1994*.

Wisden, cricket's bible, almanac, Cassandra and cheerleader, first selected its five cricketers of the year in 1889. Just about any cricketer who has ever been anbody has been selected at some time or another. Most significant omission of modern times: P H Edmonds, who neglected to mention this fact to his biographer.

The award is made by the editor, Matthew Engel, and it rewards performances during the English season of 1993. You cannot be a *Wisden* cricketer of the year twice: if you fancied Gooch, Atherton, Border, Gower and Hick, try again, they are all ineligible.

My prizes will go to the most nearly correct answers: in the event of a tie, this column is the sole judge of nearness. Think hard, act fast: all entries must be in by Monday week, March 14. Final hint: no player from Tewin Irregulars has ever been a *Wisden* cricketer of the year.

Fifa's folly

Already Fifa, world football's governing body, is apologising to the United States about its game. "Football has to give the same attraction as other sports," the Fifa spokesman, Guido Tognoni, said lamely, clearly thinking that Faustino Asprilla and Roberto Baggio need some kind of gimmick to make them worth watching. That means various nonsenses for the 1994 World Cup (which will, of course, be held in the home of a certain kind of nonsense, the United States) now include names on the back of the jersey (presumably, like those in the Premiership, designed to be illegible from the touchline) and candy-coloured referee outfits (why allow a ref to look dignified?). Instant replay will be available in stadiums — well, up to a point. Sepp Blatter, the Fifa general secretary, clearly *au fait* with American sporting jargon, said: "An approved soccer expert will be appointed to decide which plays can be shown. We do not want to cause confrontation between fans and the refs." So when there is no replay, we will know that the ref has blundered.

Seeing red

Witches' hats are part of modern life: car-drivers form endless queues between them, and footballers train in and out and around them. Until now, they have always been red and white, but Newcastle United has, almost literally, broken the mould. Tom Brown, a vice-president of the club, manages a firm called Road Traffic Management, and it is deeply involved in traffic cones. Tired of training around traffic cones in the Sunderland colours of red and white, Newcastle has just taken delivery from Brown of 50 black-and-white witches' hats.

Half-baked

The Cambridge Boat Race crews have teamed up with the Handmade Flapjack Company, and they gobble the firm's product with alleged enthusiasm before a row. "A nutritious top-up and a very good source of energy," their coach, Ian Dryden, said. Favourite flavours are, I learn, yoghurt, raspberry, toffeemac and caramel bake. No doubt the cox carries seasick pills.

Jordan's pitch

The continued saga of Michael Jordan, the great bastketball player, and his attempt at converting himself into a baseball player, is having about the same pre-season reaction among baseball's grittier exponents as you would expect if, say, Will Carling were to go over to rugby league. Macho pitchers (a tautology) are



almost bursting to have a crack at him. "He has a press conference every day and all he's doing is hitting 80mph fast balls. Big deal," Randy Johnson, the game's leading strike-out pitcher, sneered. "I'd like to see how much airtime he'd get on one of my inside pitches." How about giving League a try, Will?

The circle line

Mike Brearley, the former England cricket captain, addressed the Royal Geographical Society this week on leadership. "Individual skill is a rare commodity. If a captain leaves out a talented performer, it reflects on him ... sometimes a player is left out through envy. He has so much flair he does not need to practise as hard as everyone else." Three guesses who he was talking about. Chris Lewis? Thank you, sir, that's close enough. Sir Michael added: "A captain needs to create benign rather than vicious circles of interaction." This column wishes Michael Atherton a weekend of benign circles.

Johnson's gamble may prove costly

By CHRISTOPHER LAW

BRIAN Johnson the Wigan coach, readily admits that should his side's home game tomorrow in the Northern ... leaders, the Stones Bitter ... by league champs, would effectively be a ... race between Bradford and Wigan.

For the Chorley-born ... proceeding with the ... gamble in view of ... bulletins awaiting ... ers - Jonathan Davies, ... Bateman, Kevin ... Roland Phillips ... represented Wales ... Smith's international ... France last week.

On the positive ... are better ... Bradford ... agreed to play ... they had only ... duty in Cup ... Castle and Leeds ... Wigan ... competitive ... title play-offs ... club Leeds ... are likely ... ten league ... four weeks ... valuable ... schedule ... past.

Castleford ... are good ... champions ... their form ... earmarked ... made ... were ... that ... went ... Hull ... have ... Leeds ... Bradford ... Halifax ... is extremely ... at home ... tally ... Griffiths ... will ... centre ... in the ... Ireland ... John ... Mike ...

... to ride Egypt Mill Prince ... of Pipe's Fragrant Dawn ... the Tripleprint Gold Cup ... Cheltenham. Fragrant Dawn ... comfortably and the weights ... traced itself for explosive ... "But he laughed and put an arm ... round my shoulder," Caddis ... recalled. "Two years ago he was ... have been suicidal." At the age ... 33, Durrwoody might be starting ... there, but Adrian Maguire, for ... one, would not wish to be ...

THE TIMES

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THE TIMES
SNOW SERVICE

SPORT IN BRIEF

ATHLETICS

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain: Indoor meeting: Selected results: Men: 60m: 1, L Christie (GB) 6.52sec; 2, M Green (US) 6.54; 3, B Surin (Can) 6.62. 60m hurdles: 1, C Jackson (GB) 7.46; 2, E Vella (Cuba) 7.56; 3, A Johnson (US) 7.58. 800m: 1, R Kibet (Ken) 1:48.90; 2, B Koech (Ken) 1:47.31; 3, T De Teresa (Sp) 1:48.19.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Birmingham 94 Hemel Hempstead Royals 77; Derby 76 Thames Valley Tigers 85.
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Cleveland 95 Philadelphia 87; New York 97 New Jersey 86; Atlanta 109 Washington 98; Orlando 107 Dallas 94; Golden State 120 Phoenix 107.

FOOTBALL

BRAZIL: Rio de Janeiro championship: Olaria 2 Baperuna 1; Fluminense 1 Volta Redonda 1; Bangu 1 Campo Grande 1; Vasco da Gama 1 America 0; Americano 1 Flamengo 3; Botafogo 1 Madureira 0.
SCHOOLS: English Adidas Trophy: Kent 2 Sussex 5; Oxfordshire 4, Wiltshire 0. Vale Cup: Watford 2 Vale of White Horse 3. English Under-16 Championship: Third round: Mister Lambert, Hull 0 Shenley Court, Birmingham 3; Bournemouth 2 King Alfred, Wantage 2; Hazelwick, Crawley 1 Dorcan, Swindon 0.
Late results on Thursday
EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-finals, first legs: Ajax 0 Parma 0; Real Madrid 0 Paris Saint Germain 1.
UEFA CUP: Quarter-final, first leg: Salzburg 1 Eintracht Frankfurt 2.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa 3 Bolton 1; Wolves 2 Leeds 1. Second division: Mansfield 1 Tranmere 3.
NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Ipswich 3 Luton 2.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Cup: Second-round replay: Great Harwood 2 Horwich 1.
DIADORA LEAGUE: Carlsberg Trophy: Third round: Hemel Hempstead 2 Chesham 1; Newbury 3 Hampton 1.
FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Second round: Dundalk 0 Bohemians 2.
SCHOOLS MATCH: British Gas English Trophy: Sixth round: Sheffield 5 North Leicester 0 (at Bramall Lane).

GOLF

SONY WORLD RANKINGS: 1, G Norman (Aus) 20.31pts; 2, N Faldo (Eng) 19.53; 3, B Langer (Ger) 17.51; 4, N Price (Zim) 16.88; 5, F Couples (US) 16.37; 6, P Azinger (US) 14.35; 7, I Woosnam (Wal) 11.26; 8, C Pavin (US) 11.17; 9, D Frost (SA) 11.15; 10, D Love (US) 9.34, 11, M Ozaki (Japan) 9.26; 12, C Montgomerie (Scot) 8.86.

HOCKEY

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Women: WRNS 0 Civil Service 3.
LUCKNOW: Indira Gandhi Golf Cup: India 1 South Africa 1; Egypt 3, Japan 2; Kenya 3, South Korea 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
India	4	3	1	0	13	1	7
South Africa	4	2	1	1	13	4	5
Egypt	4	2	1	1	8	9	5
Kenya	4	2	0	2	5	8	4
South Korea	4	0	2	2	3	12	2
Japan	4	0	1	3	3	11	1

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Boston 6 Los Angeles 4; New Jersey 5 Tampa Bay 4; Chicago 4 Calgary 2; Vancouver 4 St Louis 0; San Jose 4 Edmonton 2.

NORDIC SKIING

VUOKATTI, Finland: World Cup, Nordic combined, ski jumping section: 1, T Kono (Japan) 235.0 pts (80.5, 82.5m); 2, K Ogiwara (Japan) 225.5 (76.0, 80.5m) 1:23 (penalty); 3, J Mantila (Fin) 222.0 (76.0, 78.5m) 1:26; 4, B Engan Vik (Nor) 220.0 (76.5, 76.5m) 1:40; 5, S Nan (Japan) 219.5 (78.5, 78.0m) 1:43; 6, F B Lundberg (Nor) 213.5 (74.0, 79.5m) 2:23; 7, R Stadelmann (Austria) 212.5 (77.0, 77.0m) 2:30; 8, T Ludwick (US) 210.5 (75.5, 76.0m) 2:43; 9, T Sarparanta (Fin) 210.0 (76.5, 78.0m) 2:45; 10, R Beckman (US) 210.0 (78.5, 75.5m) 2:46, 11, A Madshard (Estonia) 203.0 (73.0, 79.0m) 3:00; 12, H Kempf (Switz) 207.5 (72.5, 81.5m) 3:03; 13, R Braun (Ger) 205.5 (72.0, 79.0m) 3:16; 14, H Manninen (Fin) 205.0 (74.0, 78.5m) 3:20; 15, K Ture Apeland (Nor) 203.0 (73.5, 74.5m) 3:33.

REAL TENNIS

HOBART: World championship: First leg: R Fahey (Aus) bt W Dawes (Aus) 7-1. First day: 6-0, 6-5, 6-3, 6-2. Second day: 6-5, 5-6, 6-4, 6-4.
BOSTON: United States amateur doubles championship: Final: J Snow (GB) R Howe (US) bt De Swestich and J Aldrey (US) 6-3, 6-0, 6-0

RUGBY LEAGUE

TOOHEY'S CHALLENGE: South Sydney 27, Brisbane Broncos 26 (in Albury).

GASABLANCA: International match: Morocco 14 BARLA Young Lions 48.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: La Plata Invitation XV 11, Queensland 10 (in Buenos Aires).

SNOOKER

BANGKOK: Thailand Open: Play-off round: R Surin (Thai) bt S Judd (Eng) 5-1, Gue Hua (China) bt D Finbow (Eng) 5-3, T Pichit (Thai) bt C Morton (Eng) 5-2, J Michie (Eng) bt N Wiengchai (Thai) 5-3. First round: A Robidoux (Can) bt M Clark (England) 5-1; A Drago (Malta) bt D Taylor (N Ire) 5-1.

SQUASH

WISPA RANKINGS: 1, M Martin (Aus); L Irving (Aus); 3, S Horner (Eng). 4, S FitzGerald (Aus); 5, C Jeckmen (Eng); 6, S Wright (Eng); 7, C Owens (Aus); 8, H Wallace (Can); 9, M Le Moignan (Eng); 10, C Nrich (SA).
PSA RANKINGS: 1, Jansher Khan (Pak); 2, B Martin (Aus); 3, R Martin (Aus); 4, P Marshall (Eng); 5, R Eyles (Aus); 6, R Norman (NZ); 7, C Walker (Eng); 8, Zarak Jahan (Pak); 9, P Whitlock (Eng); 10, T Handy (Eng).

TENNIS

DELRAY BEACH: Virginia Slims women's tournament: Third round: S Graf (Ger) bt E Likhovtseva (Kaz) 6-2, 6-4; A Sánchez Vicario (Sp) bt J Halard (Fr) 6-1, 6-1; G Sabatini (Arg) bt S Jeyaseelan (Can) 6-2, 6-2; H Sukova (Cz Rep) bt F Labat (Arg) 6-3, 6-1; S Hack (Ger) bt B Schultz (Holl) 7-5, 6-1; N Medvedeva (Ukr) bt L McNeil (US) 4-6, 6-2, 6-2; C Rubin (US) bt A Coetzer (SA) 3-6, 6-2, 7-5; S Rottier (Holl) bt J Wiesner (Austria) 1-6, 6-2, 6-4.
INDIAN WELLS, California: Champions Cup: Third round: D Cahill (Aus) bt M Rosset (Switz) 6-4, 5-7, 7-6; C Costa (Sp) bt P Rafter (Aus) 4-6, 6-4, 7-5; P Korda (Cz) bt T Martin (US) 6-4, 3-6, 6-2; S Edberg (Swe) bt F Sanaro (Fr) 6-2, 6-3; A Krickstein (US) bt P McEnroe (US) 2-6, 6-4, 6-4; T Muster (Austria) bt J Stark (US) 6-4, 6-4; A Volkov (Russ) bt M Chang (US) 6-4, 1-6, 6-3; P Sampras (US) bt M Washington (US) 7-5, 6-2.
COPENHAGEN: Men's tournament: Second round: A Antonitsch (Austria) bt T Carbonell (Sp), 6-4, 6-4; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt J Bjoerkman (Swe) 6-1, 6-4; D Vacek (Cz) bt A Jarryd (Swe) 4-6, 7-5, 7-6.
CROYDON: LTA Reebok Women's Tour Final: K Hand (Berks) bt C Herbert (Herts), 2-6, 7-6, 7-6.
WTA RANKINGS: 1, S Graf (Ger) 439.9512pts; 2, A Sánchez Vicario (Sp) 393.3824; 3, C Martinez (Sp) 201.3668; 4, M Navratilova (US) 182.8457; 5, G Sabatini (Arg) 147.6729; 6, J Novarra (Cz Rep) 144.7536; 7, K Date (Japan) 133.5833; 8, M J Fernandez (US) 126.6662; 9, M Maleeva-Fragnière (Switz) 117.1123; 10, A Huber (Ger) 105.3824; 11, M Maleeva (Bul) 97.8548; 12, L Davenport (US) 88.9412; 13, M Pierce (Fr) 87.7613; 14, A Coetzer (SA) 84.8000; 15, J Capriati (US) 83.2083; 16, N Zvereva (Belo) 81.6000; 17, Z Garrison Jackson (US) 81.0824; 18, H Sukova (Cz Rep) 72.5987; 19, N Tauziat (Fr) 67.8848; 20, J Wiesner (Austria) 63.4000; 21, L McNeil (US) 59.4211; 22, S Hack (Ger) 58.7632; 23, S Appelmans (Bel) 56.6250; 24, N Medvedeva (Ukr) 52.6579; 25, K Maleeva (Bul) 52.0471.

MOTOR RALLYING

LISBON: Portuguese rally (after 34 special stages): 1, H Airlol (Fr/Toyota) 14:23; 2, M Biasion (It/Ford) 14:24; 3, C Sainz (Spain/Subaru) 14:32; 4, J Kankkunen (Fin/Toyota) 14:38; 5, F Perez (Port/Ford) 15:27; 6, R Sperrer (Austria/Audi) 16:11; 7, J Puras (Sp/Ford) 16:34; 8, R Macieira (Port/Ford) 16:38; 9, I Holderied (Ger/Mitsubishi) 16:38; 10, J-C Macedo (Port/Renault) 16:44. Overall positions: 1, Kankkunen 6h 03min 18sec; 2, Airlol 29sec behind; 3, Biasion 48; 4, Sainz 1:56; 5, Perez 28:38; 6, Macedo 41:51; 7, R Sperrer (Austria, Audi) 47:18; 8, Macedo 51:43, 9, Macieira 1.00.51; 10, Sibera 1:04.54; 11, Holderied 1.09.28.

SKI REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort		Weather (5pm) °C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	30	160	good	powder	fair	snow	4	4/3
Snowing with strong winds so some lifts closed								
Mayrhofen	65	100	good	good	closed	fine	5	4/3
New snow everywhere, and great skiing								
Obergurgl	110	170	good	varied	good	fine	-3	3/3
Wonderful skiing with new snow								
St Anton	45	285	good	powder	good	sun	-4	4/3
Excellent powder skiing after recent snowfalls								
FRANCE								
Chamonix	45	380	good	crust	slush	fine	8	3/3
Pisted runs good but snow windblown off piste								
Isola	210	270	good	varied	good	sun	2	1/3
Very good skiing everywhere with good snowcover								
Serre Chev	45	175	good	varied	slush	sun	11	28/2
Pistes continue to offer super skiing								
Val d'Isère	135	365	good	powder	good	sun	-1	3/3
Great skiing with powder off piste								
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	115	115	good	powder	good	sun	-4	4/3
Excellent conditions on and off piste								
C Montana	40	165	good	varied	fair	fine	6	3/3
Above 1800m skiing excellent								
Grindelwald	5	100	good	varied	poor	fine	5	3/3
Very good skiing above 1500m but bare patches below								
Klosters	20	190	good	powder	good	sun	2	4/3
Pistes mostly perfect after overnight snowfall								
Wengen	20	80	good	varied	icy	fine	3	3/3
Excellent skiing available on upper slopes								
UNITED STATES								
Mammoth	165	195	good	varied	good	sun	0	27/2
Good skiing on well groomed slopes								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

McCann flies in to assume control at Celtic

BY KEVIN MCCARRA

THE ownership of Celtic changed hands yesterday. The club is now under the control of Fergus McCann, the 51-year-old Scots-Canadian millionaire, who is expected to become managing director. A formal announcement was delayed by the intervention of lawyers as discussions extended over nine hours.

With Celtic some £7 million in debt, McCann was urged by four directors — chairman Kevin Kelly, Tom Grant, Jimmy Farrell and Jack McGinn — to intervene after the Bank of Scotland was on the verge of calling in the receivers on Thursday. Yesterday, efforts were directed at securing the removal of three other directors — David Smith, the deputy chairman, Chris White, the company secretary, and Michael Kelly.

Delicate negotiations were required to ensure that enough of their shares could be obtained by McCann to give his faction a majority of the equity.

McCann headed a consortium which offered to inject up to £17.9 million in November but his offer was spurned. It is believed that another member of his group, merchant banker Dominic Keane, will join the new board along with the four directors who backed McCann. A childhood supporter of the club, McCann emigrated to Canada in the 1960s and made his fortune by building and then selling a specialist golf holiday company. Despite being based in Montreal and Phoenix, Arizona, Celtic has increasingly obsessed him. He arrived in Glasgow yesterday morning to clinch the deal.

The task was complicated by the need to dissolve a voting pact that bound five of the board together. It is presumed that McCann had to buy shares from departing directors. With Celtic so heavily in debt, the expenditure is only just beginning. A share issue is likely.

Celtic's problems, however, had their origin not so much in a cash crisis as in a crisis of competence. For most of this century the club has been the personal fiefdom of three families — the Kellys, the Whites and the Grants. The very nature of Scottish football was transformed when Lawrence Marlborough took control of Rangers in 1986. The new owners boosted expenditure at Ibrox, trusting that a latent support could be revived and lured back to the club. Graham Souness was appointed manager and England internationals such as Chris Woods and Terry Butcher were signed.

Celtic were slow to recognise that Rangers sights were set on far more than simple ascendancy in the age-old Glasgow struggle. Once the truth emerged, they were only able to produce flawed imitations of Rangers' policies. The appointment of Liam Brady as manager, with his Italian experience, was seen as an equivalent to the arrival of Souness, but Celtic did not give him an assistant like Walter Smith with local knowledge.

Brady made expensive purchases but usually had to sell to finance the deals. In real terms, the transfer manoeuvres left the club only £300,000 out of pocket. But the new signings proved unsuccessful and the club was unable to provide the funds for Brady to buy his way out of trouble. While the manager's transfer dealings were greatly expanding the wage bill, Celtic's attempt to increase commercial activity was mishandled. Terry Cassidy, introduced as chief executive in January 1991, was sacked the following year. He is now suing the club for unfair dismissal.

While Rangers' turnover stands at £21 million, Celtic's is only £9 million. The Parkhead club, although deeply in debt now, had accumulated profits of £169,000 as recently as 1987. With the pressure, schisms developed. Brian Dempsey, also in McCann's party, was ousted as a director in 1990 but by the end of 1991 he was already plotting the takeover which led to this week's events. David Smith was appointed deputy chairman in 1992 and entered into that defensive pact with four other directors. They have, though, been unable to resist the financial stresses induced by falling gates over a five-year period without a trophy.

The scheme to make Celtic prosperous by relocating to a £50 million stadium complex, was always, to put it kindly, speculative. When the bank lost faith this week it was time for the board to abandon their delusions and face chilly reality.

Weekend view, page 45
Norway date, page 45

England must dig deep in trying time

David Hands says Will Carling's men need to adopt a more positive attitude to overcome the try drought that has blighted their season

WHERE have all the tries gone? Perhaps Gerry Murphy, the Ireland coach, came close to an answer when he said after Ireland's 13-12 win over England last month: "The five nations' championship is very close this season. The gap that England and France have extended over the last couple of years is becoming narrower."

Equality is fine as a social theory but it does sport no good. If one side has neither the strength nor the wit to outscore the other, points are hard to come by. But that is only one aspect to the try drought which has most affected this season the country which lauded it over the others two years ago — England. Today they meet France in Paris with criticism of sterile play ringing in their ears.

In two championship matches this season — against Scotland, whom they beat 15-14, and Ireland — Will Carling's team have failed to score a try. They also failed to score a try in last November's 15-9 triumph over New Zealand and in the final sally of last season's championship in Ireland. Of the four tries that England did score in the 1993 championship, three came in one match — against Scotland at Twickenham. England have failed to score a try in their last four matches and have breached their opponents line in only one of the last six games.

It is a stark contrast to their grand slam season of 1992, when England scored 15 tries in four matches. But it is too facile to put the change down entirely to the new laws to which England have taken such exception.

There are a number of contributory factors, of which the most important is attitude, a point driven home by Clive Woodward, the former England centre, at a convocation of coaches in January.

Woodward, a jewel in England's midfield 14 years ago, was discussing the flat back division which is a characteristic of Australia's rugby under Bob Dwyer, the coach. He was contrasting it with the traditionally deeper alignment of English backs which tends to go only in one direction, whereas the Australians bring more variety to their moves in terms of angles, of ball-carrier and of width of passing.

He might have made more of the historical aspect of the Australian approach to rugby, a delightful *mélange* of speed, guile, strength and, above all, positive rugby.

Like the French they have produced a stream of gifted midfield players — Russell Fairfax, Mark Ella, Michael Lynagh, Tim Horan and Jason Little. There have been decisive half backs and attacking full backs. Nor has their attitude been affected by adverse weather, the passing and handling holding up because they adhere to basic skills. All too often British conditions are used as a sop.

Throw in the absence through injury from England ranks this season of one of the world's most creative centres, Jeremy Guscott, and the fretting over points in league rugby, and the spirit of adventure comes way down the list of priorities.

There is a direct correlation between the average number of tries scored in first-division matches in the Courage Clubs Championship (from where nearly all England's players come) and the number scored in the five nations' championship. Only in 1992 did England buck the trend, because their grand-slam team was at its height at a time when the other four countries were weak.

Last year the tries dwindled with the waning powers of England's ageing team, in a season when the leading clubs found tries even harder to come by because of the new laws. This season it has become far worse as first-division clubs pace themselves down a league programme harder and longer than they have known.

With English clubs playing with little rhythm or confidence is it any wonder that the national side is doing the same? In addition, England are fielding a team playing conservative rugby as newcomers find their feet in the international game, at a time when France have settled into a more productive pattern and Welsh fortunes have revived.

Yet the players are there to do more. England have experience at half back, gifted centres, wings of proven ability and speedy support players. If, however, they choose not to use them or the decision-making is inaccurate, or they become wrapped up in the lemming-like rush to put big forwards into midfield and set up secondary possession, then tries may be literally thrown away.

It comes back to attitude. If you want to play positive rugby, ball in hand, and believe yourself to be as good as the man opposite, the game can still be a pleasure to watch and play, regardless of the prevailing law. England seem to have lost that pleasure. Maybe they will find it today, somewhere in the Parc des Princes.

England expects, page 44
Test for Scotland, page 44

TABLE

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	3	3	0	70	38	6
France	2	1	1	50	39	2
England	2	1	1	27	27	2
Ireland	3	1	2	43	64	2
Scotland	2	0	2	20	44	0

RESULTS: France 35 Ireland 15; Wales 29 Scotland 6; Ireland 15 Wales 17; Scotland 14 England 15; Wales 24 France 15; England 12 Ireland 13 To play: Today; Ireland v Scotland; France v England. March 18: Scotland v France; England v Wales

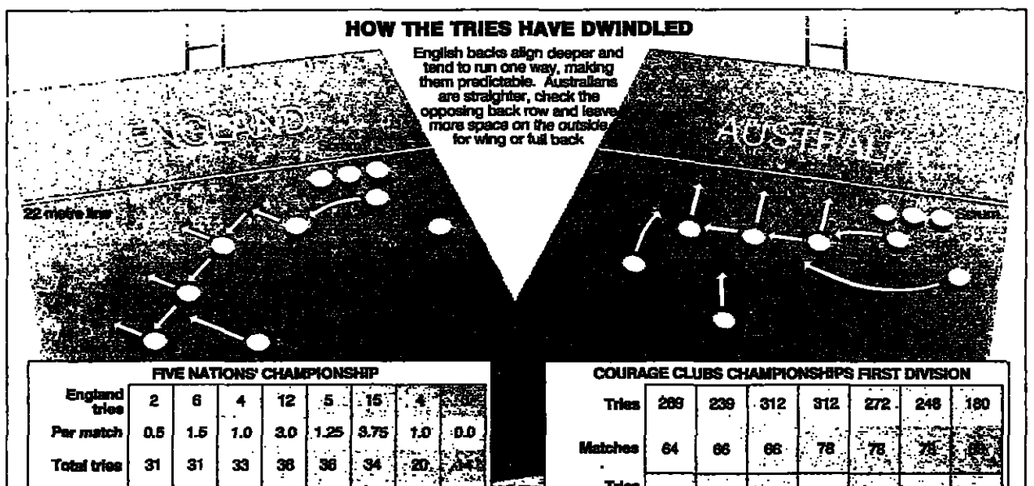
IAN STEWART



Andrew, the England stand-off half, practises his kicking in Versailles yesterday on the eve of the five nations' championship match at the Parc des Princes, Paris

HOW THE TRIES HAVE DWINDLED

English backs align deeper and tend to run one way, making them predictable. Australians are straighter, check the opposing back row and leave more space on the outside for wing or full back



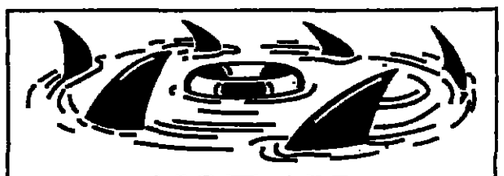
FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
England tries	2	6	4	12	5	15	4	0
Per match	0.5	1.5	1.0	3.0	1.25	3.75	1.0	0.0
Total tries	31	31	33	36	36	34	20	24
Per match	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.4	2.0	2.33

In 1991 and 1992 England won the grand slam

COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIPS FIRST DIVISION

	1987-8	1988-9	1989-90	1990-1	1991-2	1992-3	1993-4
Tries	269	239	312	312	272	248	180
Matches	64	66	66	78	78	78	78
Tries per match	4.20	3.62	4.73	4.00	3.49	3.18	2.86



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Report warns of dangers to horses in Atlanta heat

BY ROB HUGHES

HORSES may die in the heat and humidity of Atlanta in the 1996 Olympic Games unless the standards of three-day eventing competition are lowered, a study in Newmarket by the Animal Health Trust (AHT) revealed yesterday.

The preliminary findings of the study, performed largely by exercising horses towards high level performance on a treadmill and in simulated conditions applicable to Atlanta, has barely got into its stride. Yet three of four horses had to be withdrawn without completing a test designed to equate to the endurance levels of a three-day event, when they proved unable to adapt to conditions raised to 30C and 80 per cent humidity.

Each of the horses had easily coped with a similar test under English summer conditions (20C and 40 per cent humidity) and to the conditions of the Barcelona Olympics (30C, 40 per cent humidity) in 1992.

Yet, at Barcelona, one Russian horse had to be resuscitated after collapsing on the course and others were visibly distressed. That triggered the AHT study, and the point is well taken that humans, never mind such willing animals as horses, will suffer to the point of total collapse in humidity chosen as a fit playground for the Games by the International Olympic Committee.

Ironically, Princess Anne, a member of that committee, will attempt in the next month to persuade other equestrian federations to follow the lead of the British federation in awarding £3,000 towards further study. Princess Anne has already said: "Possible stress in Atlanta is a ridiculous term: there will be inevitable stress at the Olympics."

Even Dr David Marlin, the leader of the AHT study, has been surprised by some reactions. For example, he had to withdraw one horse on the treadmill, after his instruments revealed an alarming rise in body temperature, despite the fact that the horse had not greatly lost fluid, and had not shown visible signs of stress.

How, if the trained veterinary eye could not see the trauma developing, will a rider, driven on adrenalin and transmitting his or her willpower to the animal, detect the signs in time to prevent catastrophe?

If a horse were to die in Atlanta, the Olympic movement would probably pull equine events out of the Games forever. If officials sought to cancel the event, or to move it to a site away from Atlanta, that too would play into the hands of opponents within the IOC who consider eventing too esoteric and too costly. The horse, it would seem, is on a loser.

MOTORING



Alice Thomson on passion and the Porsche

PLUS: The racing Mondeo, page 15

ARTS



All the best new records and videos

PLUS: Theatre Club, pages 5-9

TRAVEL



Fly to the other side of the world for Easter

PLUS: Spring skiing, pages 24-27

BOOKS



Shere Hite takes a swipe at family values

PLUS: The Pratchett phenomenon, pages 16-17

WEEKEND



George Plumptre's surname is pronounced plum-tree: and what could be more apt and reassuring for the *Times*' new gardener? It is an old name from Nottinghamshire, which became entangled, some time before the family's migration to Goodnestone Park in Kent, with the equally ancient and complicated title of the barons Fitzwalter.

"Don't even think of going into how it works," says George, apologetically. "It's one of those which can pass through the female line, so it spends time in abeyance. The important thing is that Goodnestone has been a family home ever since it was built, in the early 18th century. And I suppose it was the garden there which is the background, for me: the solid base I have to fall back on."

He grew up, the third of five boys, in what was still a postwar wilderness: 14 acres of garden, straggling out of control at the edges. "The place had been requisitioned, and there were Nissen huts on the lower terrace until the early 1960s.

"But what I remember best is the walled garden, which goes in a series of enclosures down to the church tower at the far end. My earliest pictures are of running down there. And of a bit on one side of the garden which my great-aunt had made, between the wars: a rather lovely rockery garden, the only place you could grow things like rhododendrons. When we were small it was overgrown, and you would struggle through bramble and rubbish to find these great red flowers. Like the Sleeping Beauty."

His mother, Lady Fitzwalter, took on a 16-year-old boy from the next village who is still there. "John has kept a diary for over 30 years, week by week, month by month, detailing all the jobs. That's the secret of having a garden neat, tidy and healthy all

Continued on page 3, col 1



CHOICE

Planning an evening out, or a day with your family? The Times critics select the best entertainment around



DONALD COOPER

Actor Richard Griffiths is a formidable presence as the perplexed scientist in Brecht's weighty play, *The Life of Galileo*, to be seen at London's Almeida (see Theatre)

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

THE LIFE OF GALILEO: Brecht saw Galileo as a great mind but also a gourmandising slob. Richard Griffiths misses the man's sensuality as well as some of his intellectual fizz, but, looking as he does like a cross between a Sumo wrestler and an Oxbridge don, he is certainly a formidable presence.

Almeida, Almeida Street, London N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Sat 8pm. Sat mat 4pm.Ⓢ

THE KITCHEN: Has even Stephen Daldry, lately the director of *An Inspector Calls* and *Machinal*, done so spectacular a remodelling job? Stoves and steel counters, pots and pans, fill the well of the Royal Court, along with dozens of wrangling cooks and frantic waitresses. The audience, relegated to the theatre's rim, can only goggle as Arnold Wesker's preachy apprentice piece (restaurant kitchen as capitalist jungle, forsooth) is transformed into a millennial vision of disintegration and catastrophe.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, London SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat 7.30pm. Sat mat 3.30pm.

FILMS

Geoff Brown

SCHINDLER'S LIST (15): Steven Spielberg defies the sceptics by growing up and tackling Thomas Keneally's Holocaust novel with dignity and intelligence. Nor does he forget his cinematic flair: scenes like the destruction of the Warsaw ghetto push you to the edge of your seat. The actors serve him superbly: Liam Neeson as the German war profiteer Oskar Schindler who saves Jewish workers from the camps; Ralph Fiennes as a debauched SS commandant.
Barbican Ⓢ (071-638 8891) **Empire** Ⓢ (0800 888 911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (071-434 0031) **Screen/Hill** Ⓢ (071-435 3366) **Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332)

SHORT CUTS (18): Robert Altman at full throttle, weaving 22 major characters and ten or so plots into a compelling portrait of lives on the edge in the Los Angeles sprawl. Raymond Carver's stories, used as source material, do not emerge unscathed: Altman's collage effect spoils their lethal simplicity. Superb acting comes from a fine-up that includes Andie MacDowell, Bruce Davison, Tim Robbins, Madeleine Stowe, Lily Tomlin, Tom Waits and Lori Singer.
Chelsea (071-351 3742) **Gate** Ⓢ (071-727 4043) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/-Green** (071-226 3520) **Warner** (071-437 4343)



Lori Singer from *Short Cuts*

OPERA

Rodney Milnes

PELLEAS ET MELISANDE: Peter Stein's production of Debussy's *seminal fin-de-siècle masterpiece* for Welsh National Opera was the sensation of 1992, garnering well-earned prizes. It is revived in Birmingham prior to an already sold-out run at the Châtelet Theatre in Paris — an indication both of WNO's international standing, and of the fact that many major operatic events now take place outside London. As before, Alison Hagley and Neill Archer sing the title roles, and David Robertson, conducts.
Hippodrome, Hurst Street, Birmingham Ⓢ (021-622 7486), Thurs, then next Sat, Mar 14 and 16, 7.15pm.

GLORIANA: The third scene of Britten's opera is set in Norwich, showing Queen Elizabeth I on royal progress, so where better to see Opera North's new production? Phyllida Lloyd's dazzling inscenation, already seen in London, marks a decisive stage in this ill-received piece's gradual emergence from the dog-house, whither it was consigned after a frosty gala premiere in 1953. Its current success is assured by a magnificent interpretation of the ageing queen by Josephine Barstow, with strong support from Thomas Randle as Essex.
Theatre Royal, Ⓢ Theatre Street, Norwich (0603 630000), today, 7.15pm.

CLASSICAL

Richard Morrison

RATTLE AND SHAKE: Three years ago, under Simon Rattle's inspired direction, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra embarked on a massive, ten-year project to celebrate a different decade of the 20th century each year until the year 2000. "Towards the Millennium" has now reached the Thirties, and the programmes are as diverse as they are powerful. This week's concert brings together Shostakovich's Fourth Symphony (the one that got him into hot water with Stalin's henchmen). Berg's Violin Concerto played by Gidon Kremer, and Edgard Varèse's powerful glimpse into the future, *Ionisation*.
Symphony Hall, Ⓢ Broad Street, Birmingham (021-212 3333), Wed, 7.30pm. **Festival Hall**, Ⓢ South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), Thurs, 7.30pm

MONTEVERDI VESPERS: One of those ingenious concerts beloved by music critics: this is Monteverdi's Vespers, but not *the* Monteverdi Vespers. The latter were written in 1610 by the great Italian composer; whereas the pieces being given in what is described as their "*modern premiere*" on Tuesday are a sequence drawn from a 1650 posthumous collection. All this is fascinating for connoisseurs, no doubt — but I hope that ordinary concert-goers are not put off by the esoteric musicology, because Monteverdi's music — of whatever decade — is majestic, sensuous and thrilling, and needs no special pleading. The Taverner Consort and Players are directed by Andrew Parrott.
St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (071-222 1061), Tues, 7.30pm.

ROCK

David Sinclair

TORI AMOS: A compelling and bizarre performer, on stage Tori Amos sits alone at her piano as if confronting an instrument of torture. Classically trained, she always plays divinely, and usually spices up the stark mood created by her own songs with a couple of unexpected cover versions: Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen Spirit" and the Stones's "Angie" are the current favourites. Amos's second album, *Under The Pink*, has turned into such a mammoth success that people are starting to say that Kate Bush sounds like her.
Her Majesty's Theatre, Haymarket, London SW1 (071-494 5050), tomorrow; **Colston Hall**, Colston Street, Bristol Ⓢ (0272 223682), Mon 8pm.

R. KELLY: Successfully groomed as the new soul superstar of the 1990s, R. Kelly applies a modern hip hop touch to music steeped in the influences of Stevie Wonder and Donny Hathaway. Brought up in a tough Chicago 'hood, the young Robert Kelly drew inspiration from the streets. His incredible voice and keyboard skills have taken him from subway busking to the top of the American charts with hardly a swear word on the way. Instead he makes his intentions plain on songs with titles such as "I like The Crotch On You".
Wolverhampton Civic Hall, North Street (0902 312030), Tues. **Labatt's Apollo**, Queen Caroline Street, London W6 (081-741 4868), Thurs, Fri, next Sat and next Sun, 8pm.



Divine performer, Tori Amos

JAZZ

Clive Davis

SINGERS: A clutch of world class performers hits London this week, with the idiosyncratic Betty Carter starting a fortnight's visit to Ronnie Scott's on Monday, and the stylish Scottish balladeer Carol Kidd performing the Gershwin songbook at the Queen Elizabeth Hall tomorrow. The Café Royal's Green Room, meanwhile, hosts a rare cabaret season by Annie Ross, neatly coinciding with her screen role in Robert Altman's film *Short Cuts*. A former Hollywood child actress, Ross has slipped back and forth between singing and acting. Though her smoky voice has lost some of its flexibility, she still dominates the soundtrack to *Short Cuts*, reviving an old Lambert Hendricks and Ross song "Blue" alongside material written by Elvis Costello, Bono and Doc Pomus.
Café Royal, Ⓢ Regent Street, London W1(071-437 9090), Tues to Mar 19, 7pm. **Ronnie Scott's**, Frith Street, London W1 (071-439 0747), from Mon, 8.30pm. **South Bank**, Ⓢ London SE1(071-928 8800), tomorrow, 7.45pm.

SCOTT HAMILTON: Traditionalists heaved a sigh of relief when the romantic strains of Hamilton's saxophone were first heard in the clubs of New York in the mid-1970s. Here was a gifted tenor player who was reviving the traditions of a lost age, evoking memories of Ben Webster. Still some months short of his 40th birthday, Hamilton has long been one of the most popular visitors among British audiences; he sometimes seems to spend as much time here as in America. Though he can occasionally be too urbane for his own good — unlike Webster he never really *sounds anguished* — Hamilton rarely turns in a bad performance.
Pizza Express, Dean Street, London W1 (071-439 8722/437 9595), tomorrow, Mon, Wed, Fri, next Sat, 8pm.

DANCE

John Percival

TWYLA THARP: These programmes offer the liveliest, most entertaining and original dancing seen in London for a long time. Tonight, Tuesday and Thursday they include the exhilarating *In The Upper Room*, with music by Philip Glass. Tomorrow , Wednesday and Friday are the last chances to see *Nine Sinatra Songs*. Music for the other works ranges from jazz by Willie Smith for *Baker's Dozen* to Brahms' *Paganini Variations*.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, London W6 (081-748 3354), 7.30pm.

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY: The Scottish Ballet celebrates its silver jubilee by tackling Tchaikovsky's grandest ballet. Galina Samsova is directing, with additions of her own to Petipa's choreography. Sharing the title role with the company's own dancers will be Lesley Collier from Covent Garden and — when the performance goes on tour — ex-Bolshoi ballerina Ludmila Semenyaka .
Theatre Royal, Ⓢ Hope Street, Glasgow (041-332 9000), opens Thurs, 7.15pm.

MUSEUMS

John Russell Taylor

DEITIES AND DEVOTION: All the objects in this show are involved with Hindu worship. Most of the deities are forbidding, but there are also delightful small votive figures in clay, of animals or humans going about their normal business. The explanations offered of the various cults, in art and in life, are exemplary.
British Museum, Ⓢ Great Russell Street, London WC1 (071-636 1555). Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm, Sun, 2.30-6pm, until Apr 10.

THE PEOPLING OF LONDON: This exhibition reveals that London has been a multi-cultural city for at least 2,000 years. Visitors are taken on a trip through history, meeting conquerors such as the Romans and the Normans as well as the Germans, Italians and Jews in medieval London, the Protestant refugees of the 16th and 17th centuries, and more recent waves of Jewish, West Indian, Indian and Pakistani settlers.
Museum of London, Ⓢ London Wall, London EC2 (071-600 3699). Tues-Sat, 10am-6pm, Sun, 2-6pm, until May 15.

GALLERIES

Richard Cork

PICASSO: Sculptor/Painter: Never before have Picasso's painting and sculpture been brought together so triumphantly. Whether discovering a bull's head in a bicycle saddle and handlebars, or painting the face of wife Jacqueline on sheet metal, Picasso sustained his intelligence and zest. Unmissable.
Tate Gallery, Ⓢ Millbank, London SW1 (071-887 8000). Mon-Sat, 10am-5.50pm, Sun, 2-5.50pm, until May 8.

MEDARDO ROSSO: A lucid tribute to this pioneer of modern sculpture featuring a selection of his bronzes, plasters and strangely melting wax heads.
Whitechapel Art Gallery, Ⓢ Whitechapel High Street, London E1 (071-377 0107). Tues-Sun, 11am-5pm (Wed to 8pm), until Apr 24.

CHILDREN

Heather Alston

LONDON

Puppets, Masks and Stories: A family workshop.
Polka Theatre, 240 The Broadway, Wimbledon. Today, 3pm. Adults £6, child £4. Ages 6 and over.

Pekko's Puppets: Two performances by *Red Riding Hood*, a fast and funny version of the traditional tale (11am, ages 4-11 years) and *Finn McCool*, a combination of two stories based on the Irish hero (2pm, ages 5-11 years).
Jacksons Lane Theatre, 269 Archway Road, N6 (081-341 4421). Today, 11am, 2pm. Tickets £2.50.

London Zoo: Events every day include: Discovering Reptiles, Animals in Action (in which visitors can get close to hand-reared animals), Spider Encounter and Pelican Feeding.
London Zoo, Regent's Park, NW1 (071-722 3333). Daily 10am-4pm. Adults £6.50, child £4.50 (under-4s are free).

Ernest Read Concerts for Children: The Ernest Read Symphony Orchestra with Johnny Morris telling the stories.
Royal Festival Hall, South Bank Centre, SE1 (071-928 8800). Today 11am. Tickets from £5.50.

Sutton House: Green Link Walk: Meet at Liverpool St Underground Station and walk to Sutton House via historical points of interest.
Sutton House, 2 & 4 Homerton High Street, E9 (081-986 2264). Tomorrow 10am. Tickets £4 walk only, £10 includes lunch and tour. Age 10 and over.



Top dog: from Crufts 1993

BIRMINGHAM

Crufts Dog Show: Includes best of breeds and obedience classes as well as displays and competitions by the Kennel Club Junior Organisation which caters for 8 to 18-year-olds. For the first time this year there is a Discover Dogs section to help you choose a dog to suit your circumstances.
Information from Kennel Club in advance (071-493 6651). NEC Box office (021-780 4133). Thursday-Sunday 8.15am-7.30pm. Tickets Thurs, adults £5, child £3; Fri-Sun, £6, £3.

CORNWALL

On the Waterfront: A children's painting workshop using treasures found on the beach.
St Ives Tate, Porthmeor, (0736 796226). Today, ages 6-8 years, 10am-noon; ages 9-13 years, 2-4pm; Booking essential, tickets £1.50. Daily admission 11am-5pm (Tues until 9pm), £2.50, children under 11 free.

DERBYSHIRE

Friends of Thomas the Tank Engine: Thomas the Engine and the Fat Controller will be running trains over the weekend plus a museum, country park and animal farm.
Midland Railway Centre, Butterley Station, Ripley (0773 747674). Today, tomorrow, 11.15am-4.15pm. Adult £5.95, two children free with each adult.

KENT

Yogi Bear and the Magic Lamp: Audience participation and fun based on the Jellystone television characters.
Stag Theatre, High Street, Sevenoaks (0732 450175). Yogi Bear, today, 1pm, 3.30pm. Adults £4.50, child £3.50.

SCOTLAND

Deep-Sea World: Take an underwater safari, meet Olly the Octopus, tickle the lobsters and have your face painted.
North Queensferry, Fife (0383 411411). Open daily Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm, Sat, Sun, 9am-6pm. Adults £4.50, child £3.25, under 4s free.

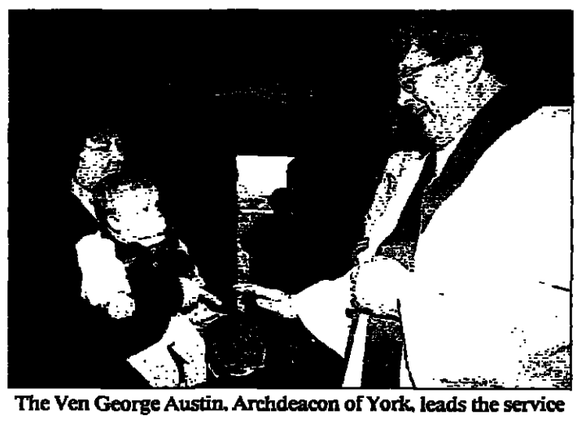
SUFFOLK

Celebration of Schools Music: Over 1,500 school children take part in a week long festival of school music including their own version of the "Last Night of the Proms".
Snape Maltings Concert Hall, Snape. Box office (0728 453543). Mon-Sat, 7pm. Adult £2.50, child £1.50.

Ruth Gledhill finds warmth in worship at a church in York

AT YOUR SERVICE





The Ven George Austin, Archdeacon of York, leads the service

"GOOD morning, the Archdemon has arrived," minister Bill Ankers announced as I walked into the red-brick church of St Luke's. He was referring to the Archdeacon of York, the Ven George Austin, that day's guest preacher. Mr Austin was likened by his own Archbishop, Dr John Habgood, to Charles Dickens' Fat Boy in *The Pickwick Papers*. More recently, he received hate mail after he condemned the Prince of Wales's alleged relationship with Camilla Parker Bowles. But his reception at St Luke's showed him to be a man in touch with middle England and middle-of-the-road Anglicanism.

Mr Ankers belongs to the expanding ranks of non-stipendiary ministers in the Church of England. These are men and women, often with full-time secular jobs, whose weekend hobby is being a vicar. When a parish like St Luke's is between vicars, non-stipendiary ministers become indispensable.

Mr Ankers's secular work is as a car dealer, so it was no surprise when he asked for a moment's silence "to still the traffic in our busy lives". The Bible readings were dramatic. From Numbers 15, we heard the story of a man stoned to death for gathering firewood on the Sabbath, and from John's gospel that of the woman caught in the act of adultery.

Then Mr Austin began to preach on the love of God and on the need for self-examination during Lent. He referred to boring church services, dull sermons and an insomniac he knew "who for 20 years loved coming to church because it was the only time he could sleep".

Our prayers were led by a member of the congregation, a former Baptist, before we moved into the confession and the peace, when the clergy joined us in the nave as we all shook hands.

In its eclecticism, St Luke's felt like a microcosm of the Church of England as it is today. Bells were rung and incense issued forth during the eucharistic prayers, but we had fresh, leavened bread instead of the unleavened hosts for communion, and an evangelical-style group with guitar and electric piano sang as we walked to and from the altar rail. The final words from Mr Austin were characteristically dramatic: "I take no pleasure in anyone's death, says the Lord. Repent and Live".

Over coffee, a former Roman Catholic explained why St Luke's had tempted him into Anglicanism. Jim Harland, a regular member since 1977 when he helped fix the organ, said: "It was the warmth of the people who greeted me". He is now a church warden. Mr Harland said: "We sometimes have to put extra seating out because so many people come."

● *Sunday services: 9.30am communion, 6.30pm evening prayer.*

☐ THE Church of England parish of St Luke's, Burton Stone Lane, York (0904 634145)

NON-STIPENDIARY MINISTER: The Rev Bill Ankers.

SERMON: The Ven George Austin was disappointingly non-controversial, but refreshingly spiritual and amusing.★★★★

ARCHITECTURE: Built early this century, but the money ran out after the nave was finished and the aisles were never built. Bright and cheery effect achieved by red carpet and white walls.★

MUSIC: Small choir of boys and girls in blue robes led us in songs from the evangelical hymn book Mission Praise. A group played during communion.★★★

LITURGY: Rite A of the Anglican Alternative Service Book.★★

SPIRITUAL HIGH: The warmth of the congregation wholly offset the sadness of the incomplete building in a poor area.★★★★★

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Excellent coffee, tea, biscuits and a friendly chat.★★★★

★ *Stars are awarded to a maximum of five.*

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 31

PREFRACT

(b) Abrupt, stubborn, obstinate, refractory, an adaptation of the Latin *praefractus* abrupt, stern inflexible, the past participle of *praefringere* to break off before the point or abruptly, from *prae* before + *fringere* to break: "Which no man could deny, that were not too prefract and obstinate."

ROSTRAL

(b) Of columns, pillars, and so on, adorned with the beaks of galleys or representations of these. Adjective from the Latin *rostrum* a ship's beak. "At the extremity of the saloon was a rostral column, on which were inscribed the names of the heroes of the Nile."

LEMUR

(a) In Roman mythology, almost always in the plural as *lemures*, the spirits of the dead, from the Latin word. Also, in zoology, a genus of nocturnal mammals of the family *Lemuridae*, found chiefly in Madagascar, allied to the monkeys, but having a pointed muzzle like that of a fox, an animal of this genus. "Lest he beheld one of those grim lemures, who haunted the threshold of the homes they formerly possessed."

MATHEMEG

(b) A catfish inhabiting the North American lakes, from the Cree *mathe* ugly + *-meg* a suffix indicating the name of a fish: "The mathemeg or land cod of the residents of the fur countries is taken sparingly."

What to tell the children

In an enlightened spirit of subversion, **Janet Daley** offers a Conscientious Parent's Guide to DIY sex instruction

NORMAN ROCKWELL



The Government is launching a campaign to put sex education back into the home. Who could possibly argue with that? Well, lots of people actually. Thirty years ago the idea that parents — and only parents — were the right people to tell children about sex would have been so uncontroversial as to be scarcely worth stating. Now it is likely to set off a thunderous debate between professional lobbyists of all camps.

The implicit message (or, as the activists are inclined to call it, "the hidden agenda") behind this proposal is that families are the only legitimate source of authority about sexual matters. Those with a vested interest in professional sex education will see this as a threat to their dominion. Which can only be a good thing.

So in the spirit of this subversion, I offer one Conscientious Parent's Guide to DIY sex instruction. Diagrams not supplied.

For those convulsed by confusion and/or embarrassment, it may help to organise things under three headings: what, why and how.

First comes the most enormous leap: what is this all about anyway? This part of the discussion should come, ideally, when the sprogs are very young indeed. Otherwise, popular culture will get in first and make so profound an impression that nothing you can say will make much difference.

If you feel *very* strongly that sex should only be a part of marriage (or at least a Meaningful Relationship), you are going to have to get this across before they get addicted to the ethic of pop music, which preaches that it is just good fun.

So what do you say about what sex actually is: a way of making babies, a way of expressing your love for another person, a form of recreation that can have nasty consequences?

In my parents' day, it was almost invariably explained as baby-making, an easy cop-out which led to massive confusion later on. I vividly remember being given a step-by-step account of sex as consisting of intercourse, conception and birth which completely omitted any reference to pleasure.

This omission came startlingly to light when I overheard an aunt's pregnancy referred to as "an accident". Given my considerable knowledge of the procedure by which such things came about, it was obvious that one could not have — um — taken the necessary steps without being aware of them. When I confronted my mother on this point, she murmured something about enjoyment and affection but, at the age of ten or so, the real impulse was largely lost on me. Which brings us to the great, insurmountable problem with the second heading: why is this bizarre thing done at all?

As a pre-pubescent child finds the idea of sexual desire incomprehensible, the act itself can only seem perplexing at best and frightening at worst. Much of the euphemism and mystification in which we all flounder when attempting to explain what it is really all about, revolves around the fact that, for physiological reasons, children cannot understand what we are talking about. Which is why not giving too much information too soon is terribly important.

Girls need to know about menstruation before they reach puberty, and that deadline is arriving earlier and earlier. But the pressure which is put on children by the media to absorb and be influenced by what they cannot possibly understand is nothing short of criminal. Even if they cannot experience true sexual urges, they do feel an irresistible impulse to be more grown-up, and are very suggestible when it comes to impressions of what being really grown-up means. Parents now find themselves in a race not only with clinical purveyors of contraception but with playground video culture. Under these trying circumstances, one can only hope to provide some sort of framework for putting it all into perspective.

Suppose, being a sensitive and more-or-less liberal parent, you go for the Sex as an Expression of Love Between Two People option. This seems to avoid the major pitfalls: it does not encourage promiscuity or exploitation but at the same time allows a certain amount of scope for experiment. It encompasses baby-making but does not dishonestly imply that that is all there is to the entire business. But be warned, as one enlightened parent to another, this approach is not without risk.

Having taught my daughters that sex was all about tenderness and mutual esteem, having conscientiously referred throughout to "love-making" rather than "having intercourse" (or "screwing", on which the dedicatedly progressive insist), I then found that I had no way of explaining rape. If sex was all about love, how could it also be a form of assault? If it was a kind of intimacy, why should it be foisted on you by a stranger? For a long time, they simply could not accept the idea of such a threat. "Why", one of them asked me poignantly, "should a man who doesn't even know me want to make love to me?"

There we were, smack up against the great contradiction of sexuality: that it represents both love and bestiality, the best and the worst in human nature. And explaining that is a hell of a lot more difficult than recounting the mechanics.

Which brings us to the easy bit: how? The basic facts are simple enough, especially as you have a lot of literature to help you. It is best to avoid excessive detail at the earliest stage unless you want to make your child the hero of his fascinated primary school reception class. What is more problematic are the variations. Few children these days will have avoided hearing about the major detours, not to mention the minutely described esoterica. What do you say about masturbation (particularly in its exotic forms, which have become so newsworthy of late), about homosexuality, about protecting yourself from disease? Certainly we must all feel free to express our own confusions. If you don't know how you feel about something, it is best to say so while holding to whatever basic principles you have adopted from the beginning: don't be unkind, don't deceive, or whatever.

> So what do you say sex actually is: a way of making babies, love for another person, a form of recreation?

Every young generation — whatever its parents have said — seems to develop its own sexual ethic. The present one seems, if anything, more monogamous than mine was in the 1960s. If it is any consolation, the fact that you have talked to them at all, rather than the details of what you said, seems to be the most important thing.

At least when they are grown-up they will be able to look back with some charity on your fumbling good intentions.

'A good gardener has a genius for grouping plants'

JULIAN HERBERT



Family tree: George Plumptre and his wife Ra, holding Hermione, two, with Wyndham, eight, (top left) and Piers, six

continued from page 1

through the year. Real head-gardeners run things like clockwork, working to a firm rota. Right now, I know I ought to be tidying up, getting ready for summer, moving things. But I'm afraid, with three children, that I am myself a dreadfully reactive gardener. I do something when it's shouting to be done."

The great charm of George Plumptre as a gardening guide lies in just this contradiction: he is in tune with both ends of the great British gardening dream. After growing up at Goodnestone, and starting his career writing guides to great gardens, he now finds himself in personal charge of a plot 25 paces by 14, and of children aged eight, six, and two who just want to climb, make dens, dig to Australia, and play cricket in it.

"We now have a nice brown patch two foot square where the wicket was. But it's as much their garden as ours. And I can't come home [he works part-time for Sotheby's] and go straight out to eight hours gardening. The family has to have time." He is not, therefore, a model head-gardener. His personal rota is, at best, sketchy — and he has no formal horticultural training.

After growing the usual tobacco-plants at prep school, and watching his mother become increasingly involved with Goodnestone (one of the most-visited gardens in Kent), he lived for a spell in London "with only a couple of tubs on the balcony", led a young man's busy London life, stepped out for a spell in the 1970s with the young Lady Diana Spencer, and devoted himself to compiling the encyclopaedic *Collins Book of British Gardens*. For this he spent a spring, summer, autumn, spring and summer again touring Britain, "talking and listening to garden owners.

"I loved it. Just seeing people in their gardens, learning what they grew, what they enjoyed, what they were proud of. I love the whole social business of gardening: why it's so important, and why people will spend so much time and money on a garden whatever size it is. It's a genuine release from mundane and pressured lives, the best and most satisfying contact with nature that most of us get. It can be competitive or it can be relaxing."

He learnt what makes a really good gardener: "It isn't just having everything organised and healthy, it's a genius for grouping plants, making spaces, creating something which has a real emotional effect on you, as well as just a visual one. In the best gardens, you don't just think 'how clever, how beautiful'. You're drawn in, and excited. It's a pity to get onto the garden-writing, garden-professional, competitive treadmill — I mean, look at this hoo-ha over *Gardeners' Question Time*. It gives the impression that the whole gardening world is frenetic and anxious. There is another side: something peaceful, somewhere to relax, something you've made because you like it."

Green thoughts in green shades, however, can be woefully distracted by things looking untidy, or wrong, or unrestful. Having grown up as a garden visitor and garden historian, as much at home with formality and statuary and striped lawns as with woodland, wilderness and romance, George Plumptre finally, as a married man, achieved his own patch.

The first was a four-acre one, where he made the same discoveries as many house-owners: that "appreciating everything is a recipe for disastrous indecision", that you can't create Sissinghurst or Goodnestone in a small family garden, and that in any case, ordinary families do not stay put for 250 years but tend to move on, and need to plan for that. After various adventures with rotovators and JCBs, he started to make headway before moving on to the current small patch, which he hopes to leave better than he found it.

The authentic, empire-building gardener's tone comes into his voice as, having now supplemented his garden-historian's knowledge with some solid experience of plantsmanship, he begins to flex his muscles and state his own tastes. "Gardening goes in stages, for everybody: phases of life when you can spend a lot of time and money on it, and phases when you can't. I like evergreens, but I have a prejudice against some of the more mournful ones. Prostrate juniper." He has been thinking about organic gardening, and takes a moderate view. "Everyone should have a degree of organic idealism. There's a lot more advice: how to have a compost heap, what to use instead of peat, and so on. You have to be aware that you don't use weed-killers unless absolutely necessary, on paths, etc. But there's no doubt that non-organic gardening saves work."

He sighs, thinking again of the clamouring jobs outside.

His next ambition is to join the real élite of gardeners, and become a greenhouse man. Meanwhile, our Everyman, he shall chronicle his own garden, and raise his eyes — and ours — just occasionally to the heights of Repton and Jekyll. And, by the way, he doesn't talk to his plants.

Gardening, page 22

Gardeners' questions

Gardeners' questions — as the BBC has found to its cost — are not to be trifled with. If there are little black Space Invaders chomping your roses, if your lawn is slimy and your crocuses about to croak, you don't want exciting new youth-orientated roadshows. You want solid advice, and you want it fast. Preferably from someone who has spent his life, man and boy, down there doing it: making things grow.



Anderton: experienced

In which spirit, *The Times* offers Stephen Anderton: horticultural officer for the Northern region of English Heritage. Each week he will answer questions, however anguished. He has faced a good few of his own recently: the two main gardens he tends are Belsay Hall, Northumberland, "a romantic 19th-century plantsman's garden" as he calls it, now 12 years into a programme of renewal; and Brodsworth Hall, South Yorkshire, which is, he says, "chaos. But what it will be is a very smart, 1860s, if-it-grows-then-clip-it sort of garden."

He enjoys both approaches. "The point about gardens is that they should be what people want of them. You should ask what the garden's *for*, and how you want to use it. I hate a lot of garden writing, because it gets prescriptive. Some experts don't offer people ideas and solutions, they offer them more guilt. We're all too guilty. A garden is a pleasure."

Qualified in landscape design and garden management, he has delved in every soil the UK can provide: "From chalk, to Cambridgeshire clay, to this stuff up here which is barely soil at all really. Gravel and sand. It's amazing what you can do with it, though." And his own garden? Ah... Mr Anderton does not, at the moment, have one. "Which is why I can carry the responsibility I do, and have the time to write. Actually, I'm writing the music for a musical version of *Macbeth* at the moment, as well." His first degree was in classics and drama: this is clearly a renaissance man. Bring him your traumatised Tradescantia or tortured tomato-plants. He will not quail.

L.P.

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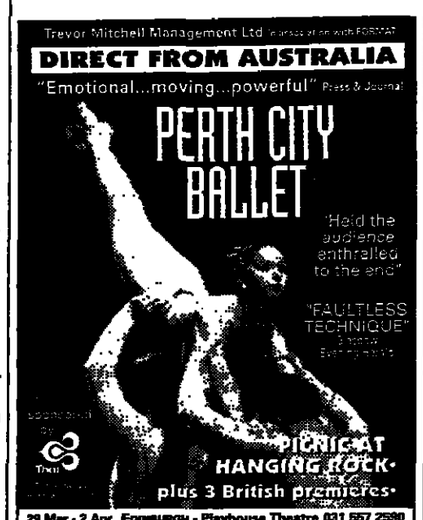
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Saturday 5 March 7.30 pm	AMERICAN STRING QUARTET CHARLES NEIDICH clarinet. Master Concert Haydn: String Quartet in C Op.54 No.2; Bartók: Quartet No.1 Op 7 Mozart: Clarinet Quintet in A K581 £12, £10, £8, £6 HoM
Sunday 6 March 4.00 pm NB: starting time	NEW YORK FESTIVAL OF SONG, Dominique Labelle soprano; Kimberley Barber mezzo-soprano, William Sharp baritone, Seanan Sitler, Michael Barrett piano. MODERN SCENES FROM AMERICAN LIFE, including songs by Copland, Ives etc and London premières by Gershwin & Harold Arlen. £15.00, £12.50, £10.00, £7.50 HoM
Monday 7 March 7.30 pm	PETUR JONASSON, ARNALDUR ARNALDSSON guitar Giuliani: Grand Overture; Ponce: Sonata romantica Guitar by Bernhard Mansson Music by Rodrigo, Thorarinsson and Asgeirsson £9.00, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50. Embassy of Iceland/Helen Sykes Mgt
Tuesday 8 March 7.30 pm	ANDREAS HAEFLIGER piano. International Piano Season Beethoven: Sonata in A flat Op.26 Schumann: Kreisleriana Op.16 Scriabin: Sonata No.5; Debussy/Ravel 5 pieces from Mamma's Toys, Rachmaninov: Prelude Op.23 No.3 & No 10; 3 Etudes-tableaux £12, £10, £8, £6 Intermusica Artists' Management Ltd
Wednesday 9 March 7.30 pm	VOGLER QUARTET of Berlin Master Concert. Vogler Quartet Mini-Series I Haydn: String Quartet in G Op.77 No 1; Lutoslawski: Quartet (1964) Schumann: Quartet in A minor Op.41 No.1 £12, £10, £8, £6 HoM
Thursday 10 March 7.30 pm	CASTALIAN BAND. Early Music & Baroque Series Lorna Anderson soprano, Richard Gwilt viola, Imogen Seth-Smith cello, Lucy Carolan harpsichord. ORPHEUS CALEDONIUS. Works by Corelli, Handel, Veracini, McGibbon, Scarlatti, Stanley & Giardini. £10, £8, £6, £4 Supported by the Arts Council of G B
Saturday 12 March 7.30 pm	VOGLER QUARTET of Berlin Master Concert. Vogler Quartet Mini-Series II Mozart: Quartet in E flat K 589; Schumann: Quartet in F Op.41 No 2 Zemlinsky: Quartet No.2 Op.15 (1915) £9.00, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50 HoM

BARBICAN HALL
071-638 8891 9AM - 8PM DAILY

Today 5 March 3.00pm	STRIKE UP THE BAND – An afternoon of fun filled music making with the London Symphony Orchestra led by Richard McNicol. Prog. inc. Gershwin Slide Up the Band Stravinsky Circus Polka Mussorgsky Pictures at an Exhibition Children £3 Adults £5 *LSO Ltd*
Tom'r & Tomor 7.30pm	PUCCINI LA BOHEME Concert performances London Symphony Orchestra & Chorus, Michael Tilson Thomas cond., Thomas Hampson, Barbara Frittoli, Francisco Araiza, Nancy Gustafson, soloists. London Symphony Chorus, St Clement Danes's School Choir 5 Mar Returns Only. 6 Mar £5-£30 *LSO Ltd* 5 Mar SPONS. BY PETER STUYVESANT FOUNDATION
Mon 7 Mar 7.30pm	DANISH RADIO BIG BAND WITH GEORGIE FAME Ole Kock Hansen conductor £13.50 £9 £5 *Barbican Centre*
Tue 8 Mar 7.30pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Richard Hickox cond., Hugh Seenan horn Andrew Marriner clarinet. Britten The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra Mozart Clarinet Concerto Strauss Horn Concerto No.1 Malcolm Arnold Symphony No 8 £5 £9.50 £13.50 £15 £0 £21 £29 *LSO Ltd*
Wed 9 Mar 7.30pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA To celebrate John Lill's 50th birthday. Yuri Temirkanov cond., John Lill piano Brahms Piano Concerto No 1 Prokofiev Symphony No.5 £27 £21 £18 £10 £5 *RPO Ltd*
Thu 10 Mar 7.30pm	VERDI Ernani: Sung in Italian. International Cast Maria Guleghina, Fabio Armiliato (UK debut), Anthony Michaels-Moore, Alastair Miles, Pro Musica Chorus, English Chamber Orchestra, Oliver von Dohnanyi conductor £29 £23 £18 £15 £8 *SPONS. BY MSI GROUP INTERNATIONAL*
Fri 11 Mar 7.30pm	CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF EUROPE Nikolaus Harnoncourt cond., Beethoven Coriolan Overture, Schumann Symphony No.4 in D minor, Brahms Symphony No.1 in C minor £25 £20 £15 £10 £5 *Barbican Centre*

London Symphony Orchestra
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Strauss Horn Concerto No.1
Mozart Clarinet Concerto
Britten The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra
RICHARD HICKOX conductor
HUGH SEENAN horn
ANDREW MARRINER clarinet
Tickets £6, £9.50, £13.50, £15.50, £21, £29
Barbican Hall 071-638 8891 (9-8 daily)

Chamber Orchestra of Europe
FRIDAY 11 MARCH 7.30PM
NIKOLAUS HARNONCOURT
conductor
Beethoven Coriolan Overture
Schumann Symphony No.4
Brahms Symphony No.1
Tickets £25, £20, £15, £10, £5
Barbican Hall 071-638 8891
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A nasty Twist for children who want more

Is there a school in the land that has not staged *Oliver!* in the 34 years since Lionel Bart first penned his strangely indestructible musical? Well, probably. The fatal attraction of Nancy for Bill Sikes has an undeniably heterosexual flavour that would surely be considered unhealthy in the right-on classrooms of Hackney.

But the musical seems tailor-made for schools. It has two children's choruses. It has the part of Fagin for the show-off English teacher who thinks he is Anthony Hopkins. And it does Dickens's novel no great disservice.

Yet the rumpus over schools doing *Oliver!* continues. In January, a London school was banned from staging it on the ludicrous grounds that its show might affect the box-office for Cameron Mackintosh's Palladium production of *Oliver!* next November. Mackintosh realised that this absurdity was becoming an even riper source of amusement than Bart's dialogue, and lifted the ban.

Then, only this week, a Somerset village school apparently contravened copyright by cutting a death scene that the headteacher felt might upset small children. Again, performing rights were withdrawn: the children can now act out the original Dickens without Bart's music, then sing a few Bart songs but without actions.

Well, there is no fun in owning copyrights if you can't occasionally flex your muscles and make life miserable for a few kids. And you may argue that the headteacher was being a bit prudish about the death scene. After all, there's nothing in *Oliver!* as frightening as the crunchy bits in *Jurassic Park* — but perhaps they have banned that in Somerset, too.

However, the copyright owner is not Bart himself. He, poor chap, signed away the rights to the one work that should have made him rich beyond belief. No, what we have here is a mysterious American corporation (the London agent won't reveal its name) deciding when and how British schools should perform a classic British musical based on a classic British novel. I hope John Major raised the matter in his talks with Bill Clinton this week, but I rather suspect that he forget.

What premonition made me keep a *Sunday Times* article from last November? "New Yorker Matthew Epstein has big plans for Welsh National Opera," it enthused.

WEEK IN THE ARTS



RICHARD MORRISON

"Any suspicion that he is using WNO as a launching pad to more stellar operatic heights is dispelled by his evident enthusiasm and commitment to opera in Britain."

Such words tempt fate, do they not? Just three months later, the enthusiastic and committed Epstein has walked out. The WNO's general director wittily chose St David's Day on which to announce his resignation in a letter that fair dripped with Puccinian anguish about how the arts in Britain are "under siege".

I agree. WNO must fight for its life. But surely Epstein knew that when he took the job.

His appointment was controversial. He was a vice-president of Columbia Artists — the most powerful agents in the classical music world — and announced that he had no intention of renouncing the post. Nor did he give up his consultancies with opera companies in Santa Fe, Chicago and San Francisco.

You can look at this in two ways. A man with such powerful contacts might easily attract bright young singers to Cardiff. On the other hand, was there not something a little peculiar about putting a jet-setting wheeler-dealer in charge of a national opera company? The words "poacher turned gamekeeper" would apply, except that I am not sure that Epstein ever did turn gamekeeper. Perhaps the WNO should now appoint somebody a little less exciting.

So, are you a Picasso person or a Dali person? With both Spanish artists now on show in London, the question acquires a sociological dimension. Admit to liking Dali in certain circles (the Critics' Circle, for instance) and you may as well confess to adoring *Blind Date*, or to finding a Jeffrey Archer novel absolutely stunning.

Your companions will shuffle uneasily, and perhaps murmur "how extraordinary".

You will have transgressed into the region which proclaims that you are not one of the enlightened, that you haven't grasped the secret code that separates the critically acclaimed from the reviled. Sondheim yes; Lloyd Webber no. Clint Eastwood yes; Charles Bronson no. Early Mendelssohn yes; late Mendelssohn no. You get the idea.

Is it all a massive conspiracy by the cognoscenti, to bamboozle newcomers? Perhaps. But unravelling all these subtle distinctions does at least keep critics in work, and that's a good thing, isn't it?

Please don't answer that. By the way, I have been meaning to take that Dali poster off the bathroom wall for years.

Ibsen lands in video age



The precocious Michael Sheen plays a fantasist and braggart Peer Gynt in Ninagawa's production at the Barbican. Drawing by Bill Hewison

THEATRE: At the Barbican, **Benedict Nightingale** reviews Yukio Ninagawa's epic staging of *Peer Gynt*

Imagine you are 25 and feeling inadequate. You go to an amusement arcade, clamber into the latest virtual-reality machine — and what is the dreamscape whose centre you are? No, not one full of interplanetary rockets or heavily armoured space tanks; no, nary a glimpse of a ninja turtle. Instead, you find yourself stuck in a most daunting learning experience: four hours or more of a high-tech *Peer Gynt*.

It sounds enough to make any member of the MTV generation unplug his cans and demand his £2.50 back; but I don't think that will worry Yukio Ninagawa. He sees Ibsen's play less as the history of a moral cripple, more as a sneak preview of what happens to the soul when a man gets obsessed with wealth, power, sex and the world's other seductions. That is how he can cast the precocious Michael Sheen as the fantasist and braggart who must traverse at least five of the ages of man in the course of the evening.

After the amusement-arcade opening — dangling signs of "Le Pink Elephant" and "London Casino" while kids throng below — comes a screen on which are projected stars, a spinning Earth, and finally Ibsen's symbol of man without a spiritual core, the onion. This image reappears during changes of what, given the technological wizardry presumably available, is mostly pretty spare scenery: a shack for the Gynt home; the high flat side of a ship; a bare stage with slanting orange lights for the troll kingdom.

The troll scene comes with androgynous figures with tusks, snouts and balloon-like breasts and a monarch in a golden kabuki cloak; but otherwise Ninagawa seldom lives up to his reputation for visual excitement. There are other contradictions in his production. Though the acting can be physically very volatile — lots of refreshingly un-English rushing-about in the early scenes — the piece lacks the tension and momentum Declan Donnellan gave it four years ago. *Peer Gynt* has its longueurs, but not as many as this.

Again, the Norwegian peasantry speaks broad Irish, reflecting the easy colloquialism of Frank McGuinness's translation; yet Sheen's Peer is unmistakably Welsh, reflecting his own native strengths. Fortunately, these are considerable. Is there another young actor around who so assuredly combines precision with emotional adventurousness? He whirls onstage, a slight figure with a needle of a nose and a grin set in a half-moon, giving an initial impression of a hyperactive elf or a shrimp on speed — and then proceeds to give us Ibsen's Everyman in all his aspects.

Here is madcap Peer, his mouth unstoppably weaving tall stories while the rest of him spins around the disorientated supporting cast. Here is shifty Peer, shoddy Peer, and melancholy Peer, the Peer who ruefully sees through himself and genuinely mourns his lost mother.

Come the scenes in the palaces, harems and madhouses of Africa, and other Peers materialise, most of them strong enough to compensate for Ibsen's cartoon style and Ninagawa's uncertain handling of it. Finally, Peer the supercilious English slicker ("Sir Peter Git") gives way to morose, growling Peer, the Peer impotently at war with death.

At the end he exits from the video arcade, an older, wiser youth. Has this framing device given the evening coherence? Well, maybe. But there is a better, deeper unity: Sheen himself. We will hear much more of him.

SOUL

Smooth and sassy

Lou Rawls
Festival Hall

WHICH Lou Rawls would we see most of this evening: would it be the well manicured cocktail soul singer, or the hard-edged R&B veteran who returned to his Chicago roots on his last album?

In the end Rawls settled for a compromise, although a very stylish one, pitched somewhere between Vegas and Memphis. After so many decades in the business, he understands the need to satisfy the demands of his broad, multi-generational following.

Eighteen years ago he gained a toehold in the burgeoning disco market with a characteristically urbane Top Ten hit "You'll Never Find Another Love Like Mine". That slice of dance floor nostalgia once again formed the climax to this show, arriving shortly after the brazen schmaltz of "Send In the Clowns" and a simmering rendition of Willie Dixon's epic "Hoochie Coochie Man".

Aside from the renowned session guitarist David T. Walker, the five-piece backing band which appeared at the South Bank was functional rather than charismatic, although it coped well with the brisk changes in pace and texture, swinging from the sensuous vamping of "Tobacco Road" to the jazz-tinged medley featuring "Willow Weep For Me" and "It Never Entered My Mind". Walker cut loose on a string of impressive solos, with more than a hint of his namesake, T-Bone Walker in the air.

Adding a heavy-duty, sand-blasting tenor saxophone player would have given the group extra momentum: instead we had to be content with the less forceful combination of piano, vibraphone and middle-of-the road percussion.

At the centre of it all Rawls presented a restrained and dignified figure. No histrionics here: his tie remained firmly knotted, the double-breasted jacket stayed neatly buttoned up. With such a luxuriant baritone at his disposal Rawls can simply allow the songs to do the work for him.

A harsh sound mix did him few favours in the early stages, and he was sometimes lost beneath the drums and keyboards, but he was soon firmly back in control. While "Send In The Clowns" turned into an overblown crowd-pleaser, all his finest attributes — restraint, use of colour and dynamics — were on display on "Wind Beneath My Wings", a ballad hijacked some years ago by Bette Midler. Her version was the one that broke the bank, but Rawls — who appears tonight at the Playhouse, Edinburgh, and tomorrow at the Ritz, Manchester — clearly demonstrated who was the rightful owner.

CLIVE DAVIS

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament



Name: Matthew Warchus.

Profession: Theatre director.

Age: 27.

Up and running: *Death of a Salesman* starring Ken Stott at the West Yorkshire Playhouse (ends tonight).

Forthcoming: *Henry V* for the RSC, opening at the Barbican in May with Iain Glen acting regal. The set will be a derelict theatre, but Warchus also aims to bring out the documentary feel and ambiguities of the play. "It shows", he explains, "many different views of historic events in many different dialects."

History: Warchus's father, a vicar, trod the boards for the RSC before mending his ways. After acting in the National Youth Theatre, directing at Bristol University and boldly resuscitating Jonson's *Sejanus*, Warchus has whizzed round the fast track. He was engaged by Bristol Old Vic at 21, shuttled between Stratford and London as an RSC assistant director and director for the NYT, and was appointed associate director at the West Yorkshire Playhouse after staging *Fiddler on the Roof* there.

Penchants: Wide-ranging, although he confesses to having a soft spot for Elizabethan Jacobean poetic epics. Last year in London, his production of *The Life of Stuff*, Simon Donald's new Scots farce with thick bits, invaded the Donmar Warehouse just after his magical *Much Ado* brought a breath of fresh air to Shaftesbury Avenue with Mark Rylance as a hilariously dour Benedick.

Surprising parts: Warchus played Benedick at university, something he never told Rylance. What was his Benedick like? "I remember grinning a lot."

Musical notes: Warchus has a first-class degree in music and drama. He often underscores a script with a sound track. Later this year, he directs *Troilus and Cressida* for Opera North.

On himself: "A lot of paradoxes really. I'm quite shy but quite stubborn as well. I find it difficult to talk about myself in real life but love communicating with groups of people. Talking about fiction is a release for me."

On theatre: "There is a lot of dishonesty in theatre that really upsets me, because the essence of the work is to deal with truth and enlightenment. In life we struggle to communicate perpetually. Artists sometimes do it so well; that they capture and communicate an understanding of life so others share it is a cause for celebration."

Interview by Kate Bassett

THE SUNDAY TIMES
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WEST END ENTERTAINMENT

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

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◪ **THE ABSENCE OF WAR.** John Thaw stars in David Hare's study of the Labour Party. Brilliant, necessary, or unfair, depending on your point of view
National (Olivier, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Wed, 7.15pm; mat today, 2pm. ♿

◪ **AND WOMEN MUST WEEP.** Four short plays by Schnitzler, set in a Viennese boarding-house, newly translated for the enterprising company
Greenwich Studio Theatre, Prince of Orange, Greenwich High Road, SE10 (081-858 2862). Tue-Sun, 8pm. Until Mar 13

☐ **APRIL IN PARIS:** Gary Olsen and Maria Friedman in John Godber's simplistic travelog play.
Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (071-836 6111). Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs 3pm, Sat 5pm and Sun 4pm.

☐ **CURSE OF THE WEREWOLF.** See a man change into a savage brute before your very eyes! New thriller by Ken Hill, who brought us *The Invisible Man.*
Theatre Royal, Gerry Raffles Square, Stratford, E15 (081-534 0310) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 2pm. Until Mar 19 ♿

☐ **JANE EYRE.** Alexandra Mathie and Tim Pigott-Smith do their best in Fay Weldon's puzzling version of the well-known melodrama.
Playhouse, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (071-839 4401) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs and Sat 3pm. ♿

☐ **THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR.** Final performances for Gogol's evergreen satire, transposed to Ulster *before World War One. Dan Gordon and* Sylvester McCoy play the down-and-outs mistaken for officials.
Tricycle, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (071-328 1000) Today, 4pm and 8pm; tomorrow 5pm ♿

■ **EDDIE IZZARD:** The man is back for another solo season of comedy and sharp good sense
Albery, *St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-*867 1115) Mon-Sat, 8pm Until Mar 19.

☐ **KIT AND THE WIDOW: JANUARY SALE:** Suave and stinging, the musical satirists pass comment on the social scene with their familiar skill.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987) Mon-Fri 7.30pm; Sat 6pm and 8.30pm.

■ **THE KITCHEN:** Stephen Daldry's in-the-round Wesker. The stalls are not in use; there is seating on the stage at Dress Circle level, and a kitchen on scaffolding in between, with 30 chefs rushing manically about. Terrific

Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3.30pm.

☐ **ALEXANDRA KOLLONTAI:** Barbara Ewing's fascinating one-woman show about the forgotten comrade of the Bolshevik Revolution, Lenin's eloquent comrade.
New End, 27 New End, Hampstead, NW3 (071-794 0022). Tue-Sat, 8pm; Sun 3pm and 5.30pm Until March 27.

■ **THE LIFE OF GALILEO:** David Hare's new version of the Brecht. Richard Griffiths plays the worldly-wise scientist hamstrung by the Inquisition.
Almeida, Almeida St, N1 (071-359 4404) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm Until March 31 ♿

☐ **THE NEW MENOZA:** First in the Gate's season of 18th-century 'Age of Un-Reason' drama. Jacob Lenz's hero is an oriental traveller trying to apply good sense to the manic crises of a small German town
Gate, Pembridge Rd, W11 (071-229 0706) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until March 19

☐ **OMMA.** Subtitled *Oedipus and the Luck of Thebes.* Tim Supple's production, recast during rehearsals has still managed to open on *time. Kenneth McLeish's script draws* on many Greek sources
Young Vic, The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363) Now previewing, 7.30pm. Opens March 8, then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; *mat* Sat, 3pm and March 16, 2pm. Until April 2. ♿

☐ **PADDYWACK.** Daniel Magee's new play, set in a Kilburn bedsit where an *enigmatic Irishman seduces two* students with the sex-appeal of semtex.
Cockpit, Gateforth St, NW8 (071-402 5081) Mon-Sat 8pm, until March 26 ♿

◪ **PEER GYNT:** Nine performances only of Ninagawa's internationally-cast production of Ibsen. Sure to be visually astonishing.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891) *Tonight-Mar 12, 7pm* ♿

◪ **PERE GORIOT:** A father's self-sacrificing love for his unimpressed daughters: Geoffrey Bevans adapts and directs Balzac's great novel for Shared Experience

Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (081-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Feb 24, 2.30pm and Sats 4pm Until Mar 12. ♿

☐ **SEPTEMBER TIDE.** Daphne du Maurier's drama of inappropriate passion, returned to the West End after more than 40 years, stars Susannah York as the decent woman in love with her son-in-law, played by Michael Praed.
Comedy, Panton St, SW1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed 3pm and Sat 4pm

◪ **SWEET CHARITY:** Phil Willmott's production, transferred after a sell-out run at the Man in the Moon. With Charlotte Bicknell and Mari Wilson.
BAC, Lavender Hill, SW11 (071-223 2223). Tue-Sat, 8pm; Sun 6pm. Until March 20 ♿

◪ **THE THREE LIVES OF LUCIE CABROL:** *Theatre de Complicité's* profoundly moving staging of John Berger's tale of an Alpine woman loving and enduring all. Adapted by Simon McBurney and Mark Wheatley and directed by McBurney.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, W6 (081-748 3354) Mon-Sat, 8 pm; mats some Sat, 3.30 pm. Until Apr 9 ♿

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **An Absolute Turkey:** Globe (071-494 5065) . . . ☐ **Blood Brothers,** Phoenix (071-867 1044) . . . ◪ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ◪ **Carousel:** Shaftesbury (071-379 5399) . . . ■ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) . . . ◪ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) . . . ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (071-494 5070) . . . ◪ **Five Guys Named Moe:** Lyric (071-494 5045) . . . ■ **Grease:** Dominion (071-580 9845) ☐ **An Inspector Calls:** Aldwych (071-836 6404) . . . ■ **Les Misérables:** Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ■ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) ◪ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ☐ **Oleanna:** Duke of York's (071-836 5122) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . . ☐ **Piaf:** Piccadilly (071-867 1116) . . . ☐ **Relative Values.** Savoy (071-836 8888) . . . ☐ **She Stoops to Conquer:** Queens (071-494 5041) . . . ■ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ■ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi (071-344 0065) ☐ **Travels With My Aunt:** Whitehall (071-867 1119) . . . ◪ **The Women in Black:** Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

THE BALLAD OF LITTLE JO (15): Well-heeled girl passes as a man in a Gold Rush mining town. Over-solemn feminist Western from director Maggie Greenwald; with Suzy Amis.
Metro (071-437 0757)

SHADOWLANDS (U): Skilful rendition of William Nicholson's play about C S. Lewis's emotional awakening. With Anthony Hopkins and Debra Winger: Richard Attenborough directs.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332)

SHORT CUTS (18): Robert Altman's dazzling kaleidoscope of fractured lives in Los Angeles. The superb cast includes Andie MacDowell, Bruce Davison, Tim Robbins, Matthew Modine and Lily Tomlin
Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742) **Gate** ♿ (071-727 4043) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

CURRENT

◆ **THE AGE OF INNOCENCE** (U): Scorsese's spellbinding, heartfelt version of Edith Wharton's novel about stifled love in old New York. Daniel Day-Lewis, Michelle Pfeiffer, Winona Ryder.
Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** ♿ (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (071-437 4343)

◆ **ALADDIN** (U): Disney's brash Arabian cartoon does not match expectations, though Robin Williams' Genie is fun
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** ♿ (0426 915683) **Phoenix** (081-883 2233) **Warner** ♿ (071-437 4343)

◆ **A BRONX TALE** (18): Potent yarn of father, son and neighbourhood wiseguys. from Chazz Palminteri's one-man show. A strong directing debut by Robert De Niro
MGM Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3303)

THE CONFORMIST *(18):* Bertolucci's spellbinding version of Moravia's novel about a professor sucked into 1930s Fascism, made in 1969. With Jean-Louis Trintignant, Dominique Sanda.
Everyman ♿ (071-435 1525) **MGM Panton Street** (071-930 0631)

◆ **COOL RUNNINGS** (PG): Cheerful comedy about the Jamaican bobsled *team at the 1988 Winter Olympics*

John Turtletaub directs John Candy, Leon and Doug E. Doug.
Electric ♿ (071-792 2020/0328) **MGMs: Oxford Street** (071-630 0310) **Trocadero** ♿ (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (071-437 4343)

◆ **FREE WILLY** (U): Tearaway kid finds his soulmate: a surly amusement park whale. Family film that aims low and hits. Simon Wincer directs.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3303) **Warner** ♿ (071-437 4343)

◆ **IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER** (15): Father and son share a prison cell. Powerful, urgent film inspired by the Guildford Four stars Daniel Day-Lewis, Pete Postlethwaite and Emma Thompson. Jim Sheridan directs.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** ♿ (071-434 0031) **Plaza** (0800-888 997) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3303) **Warner** ♿ (071-437 4343)

KAFKA (15): Steven Soderbergh's flawed but atmospheric fantasia on themes of Franz Kafka, shot in Prague, with Jeremy Irons and Theresa Russell
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 6279)

◆ **MALICE** (15): Alec Baldwin's hot-shot doctor shatters Nicole Kidman and Bill Pullman's domestic bliss. Shallow, serpentine and stupefying thriller; director, Harold Becker.
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631) **Odeon Mezzanine** ♿ (0426 915683)

MANHATTAN MURDER MYSTERY (PG). Woody Allen and Diane Keaton turn amateur sleuths. Benign, frivolous comedy with Alan Alda and Anjelica Huston
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeon Mezzanine** ♿ (0426 915683)

◆ **MRS DOUBTFIRE** (12): Divorced dad gets hired as the family's housekeeper. Indulgent, crude and funny vehicle for Robin Williams. With Sally Field, Pierce Brosnan, Harvey Fierstein. Chris Columbus directs.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** ♿ (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** ♿ (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **Screen/Baker** (071-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332)

◆ **THE PELICAN BRIEF** (12). Law student Julia Roberts is trailed by hired killers and the FBI. Sleek, fatuous version of John Grisham's novel, co-starring Denzel Washington. Director, Alan J. Pakula.
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-630 0310) **Trocadero** ♿ (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** ♿ (071-727 6705) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **PHILADELPHIA** (12): An Aids victim's fight for justice. Compromises galore but dynamically told. With Tom Hanks and Denzel Washington. Jonathan Demme directs.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426-915 683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332)

◆ **THE REMAINS OF THE DAY** (U): Merchant Ivory's coldly glamorous account of Kazuo Ishiguro's novel stars Anthony Hopkins, Emma Thompson.
Barbican ♿ (071-638 8891) **Curzons: Mayfair** (071-465 8865) **West End** (071-439 4805) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Phoenix** (081-883 2233)

◆ **SCHINDLER'S LIST** (15): German businessman (Liam Neeson) saves his Jewish workers from the camps. Impressive, grown-up epic from Steven Spielberg co-stars Ralph Fiennes and Ben Kingsley
Barbican ♿ (071-638 8891) **Empire** ♿ (0800-888 911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** ♿ (071-434 0031) **Screen/Hill** ♿ (071-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332)

◆ **THE THREE MUSKETEERS** (PG): Noisy, youthful and empty new version of Dumas's tale from Stephen Herek, with Kiefer Sutherland, Charlie Sheen, Chris O'Donnell, Tim Curry and Rebecca De Mornay.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** ♿ (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (071-437 4343)

LES VISITEURS (15). Crude, raucous time-travelling comedy, a huge hit in France. With Christian Clavier, Jean Reno. Director, Jean-Marc Poiré
MGM Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) **Plaza** (0800 888997)

◆ **WAYNE'S WORLD 2** (PG): The dude duo mount a rock concert. Silly but sweet comedy sequel, with Mike Myers and Dana Carvey. Director, Stephen Surjik.
Empire ♿ (0800 888911) **MGMs: Fulham Road** ♿ (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** ♿ (071-434 0031)

NEW ON VIDEO: From Ealing classic to Japanese masterpiece

■ **THE BLUE LAMP**
Lumiere, PG, 1949
THE film that introduced PC George Dixon to the world, though Jack Warner's character is swiftly terminated by gunfire from hoodlum Dirk Bogarde. A classic Ealing drama from the underrated *Basil Dearden and Michael* Relph team.

■ **ONCE UPON A FOREST**
Fox, U, 1993
THE animated tale of furry creatures (plus one hedgehog) *whose lives in Dapplewood* forest are threatened by the spilled toxic load from a passing lorry. Ecologically impeccable, but the poor characterisations and art work produce a fourth-rate *experience for children.*

■ **ORLANDO**
Electric, PG, 1992
SALLY Potter's exuberant film of Virginia Woolf's novel about a free spirit (Tilda *Swinton) who lives for 400* years. Along the way she encounters Quentin Crisp's Queen Elizabeth I, serves as British ambassador in the Middle East, and changes sex (which makes, she says, "no *difference at all"). One of the* most visually imaginative and stimulating British independent films in years, available from W.H. Smith only, in a boxed set with the film script.

■ **PASSION FISH**
Curzon, 15, 1993
A CRIPPLED soap star (Mary McDonnell) and her secretive nurse (Alfre Woodard) undergo joint rehabilitation down south in Louisiana. Enjoyable, leisurely, character-driven film from John Sayles, full of tart talk and the spell of lazy days on the verandah.

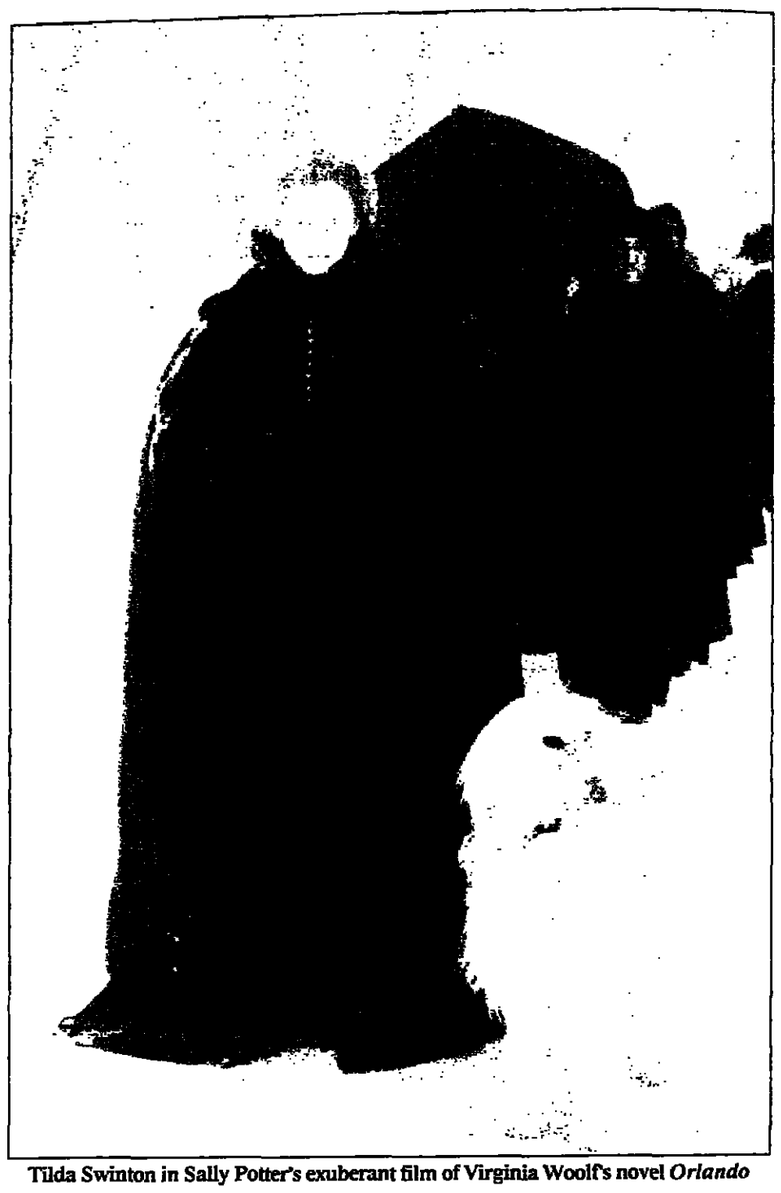
■ **SOFTE**
Arrow, PG, 1992
TENDER loving care just drips from Liv Ullmann's directorial debut, about the spent life of a Jewish woman in late 19th-century Denmark, forced into a dull provincial marriage. You can fault its length and the halting drama of the last reels, but there are still enough emotional insights and social comedy to go round. Excellent performances, particularly by Karen-Lise Mynster as the heroine, whose life "has been like a closed book which no one has ever opened".

■ **STRANGER THAN PARADISE**
Artificial Eye, 15, 1984
THE wry comic tale of a Hungarian immigrant and his slow-witted friend, bothered by a visiting cousin. Jim Jarmusch's first feature, shot *in beautiful grainy black-and-*white; no subsequent film has matched its impact and laidback charm.

■ **THREE COLOURS: BLUE**
Artificial Eye, 15, 1993,
JULIETTE Binoche as the widow of a famous composer, trying to start her life from zero in a spartan Paris apartment. Brilliantly and crisply shot, as expected, though the *emotional temperature is pret*ty chilly in this first instalment of Kieślowski's trilogy inspired by the ideas of the French Revolution.

■ **TOKYO STORY**
Artificial Eye, U, 1953
ALL new films shrivel alongside Yasujiro Ozu's tender, ruthlessly simple masterpiece about an ageing couple's disillusioning visit to their family in Tokyo. The camera stays mostly still, soaking up the texture of daily life. Full of perceptions about post-war Japan, but the fears, dreams and vices of Ozu's characters, caught between what life might have been and what it is, are universal.

GEOFF BROWN



Tilda Swinton in Sally Potter's exuberant film of Virginia Woolf's novel *Orlando*

Encyclopaedias begin to byte back

Not so long ago, education-minded parents felt obliged to buy their children a household encyclopaedia. Over the last few years, though, the computer has taken its place. Those red-leather treasure-houses have almost vanished from our shelves, dinosaurs unable to adapt to the speed at which information changes today, and the competing attractions of TV and the video game. But now they seem to be coming back to life — revived, ironically, by those self-same computers.

What's making this possible is a new information system known as multi-media. This is based on the CD-Rom — short for Read-Only Memory — the familiar compact disc mutated by data-compression techniques into a monster holding 600 megabytes or more. That is an almost absurd text capacity, at least six hundred million characters; in *fact you can buy text-only discs* containing complete libraries of nearly a thousand substantial titles.

All 21-odd volumes of the complete *Oxford English Dictionary* are available on two CDs — and would have fitted on one, except for their self-search software. But CD-Roms can also accommodate sound and video information, integrated with text to create what amounts to a living book.

Naturally, the lucrative games market has leapt at this. Most parents will be aware of CD-Roms, if at all, as expensive video console add-ons, monopolising the family television with ever more ear-shattering and ethically challenged games. The much more sophisticated Philips CD-I system leavens these with family-orientated programmes. But any of the major home computers, especially the Apple Mac and IBM PC, can be adapted into multimedia systems for as little as £250, and offer a much wider range of subjects.

Do you like classical music? You can learn more about it with multimedia programmes on works such as Beethoven's Ninth, Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*, Mozart's *Magic Flute* and his "Dissonance" quartet. Musicological and historical surveys link into complete recordings, so *that you can follow them step by step* with the music more easily than with a book, or have the computer play you isolated themes and parts, testing yourself with witty interactive quizzes. With the *Flute*, Dvôřak's *New World* symphony and other Mac programmes you can even follow the running score on screen. Other titles include histories of classical music and jazz.

MULTIMEDIA

Can a single CD really replace a whole library?

How about fine art? There are surveys of Western art, the Renaissance masters, Impressionism; in fact, *there is the whole National Gallery* from the multimedia giant Microsoft, a tour of 2,200 pictures with detailed commentary. Andromeda's *Interactive Space Encyclopaedia*, with commentary from Patrick Moore, is a superb standard-setter for popular science, along with several dinosaur programs, providing live-action reconstructions. And there are already "interactive" sex guides.

But for family interest there is nothing to beat multimedia encyclopaedias, and the current leader is Microsoft's *Encarta*. Based on the famous American Funk & Wagnall's, this is as *real an encyclopae*dia as ever appeared between red leather covers: capacious, informative and wide-ranging.

The articles — *more than a thousand of them — are* good, if inevitably rather Americocentric, and *very* up to date, but it is what accompanies them that makes this a particular marvel, calculated to lead readers from one item to the next as encyclopaedias should.

Animated diagrams with sound accompaniment explain phenomena like the Doppler Effect as a static page never could. One extraordinary diagram lets you vary the Moon's orbit to see how it affects the Earth. A colourful scrolling time-chart unrolls the progress of history, keying into articles as it goes. Articles call up illustrations, not only still pictures, charts and diagrams, but sound and even video: a quail's cry or alligator's bellow will accompany their pictures.

As you read articles on opera or theatre, or biographies of major poets and composers, you can play brief excerpts from their works; historical voices are heard, and basic greetings and numbers in 60 languages. Slow-motion video shows the flick of a chameleon's tongue, or a butterfly bursting out of its chrysalis.

You can integrate *Encarta* with Microsoft's popular *Works word-processor, making it easy* to transplant information for school projects and the like. Twice I have made the mistake of looking into *Encarta* late at night. At 2am I was still there, following reference after reference through its "pages", led on by *sophisticated but child-friendly brows*ing procedures.

Any new technology struggling to find its niche inevitably has a whiff of the gimmick about it. This has been true of multimedia. Only at the encyclopaedia level is it cheaper than ordinary books — around £69 for *Encarta* — and it is in no danger of replacing them just yet. But in making encyclopaedic information easily and swiftly accessible, in a vivid, compelling and above all entertaining form, it really is a foretaste of the 21st century.

MICHAEL SCOTT ROHAN

Two tickets for the price of one, exclusive weekend breaks, glimpses behind the theatrical scenes ... all for £12.50 a year

Your entry to the arts world

THE TIMES THE THEATRE CLUB

SINCE it opened its doors in October, 1992, the Theatre Club has *signed up 35,210 mem*bers, all keen to take advantage of offers that could have saved them up to £1,295 over the past 18 months or so. And it hasn't just been the ticket offers that have proved so attractive: 549 exclusive events for club members have taken them backstage to meet Diana Rigg, Stephen Sondheim, Phillip Schofield, Dame Edna Everage, and the casts of *Buddy* and *Sunset Boulevard*.

Then there are the ever-popular weekend breaks to events and festivals all over the country, from Manchester, City of Drama (see *On Show*, page 9) to City Varieties in Leeds, the Buxton Opera Festival and the Covent Garden Opera Festival in Lonon. Across the water, members have been able to sample the latest works on show at the ever-innovative Abbey Theatre in Dublin.

Membership of the Theatre Club costs £12.50 a year and entitles members to buy two tickets for any club offer. And keep watching out for the extra-special specials.

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFERS

LONDON
Bush Theatre
March 16-17, 19, 21-22
● *THE Bush is proud* to present the British premiere of *Democracy* by John Murrell, one of Canada's leading playwrights. Set near Washington DC, at the height of the American Civil War, *the play brings four unlikely* characters together: a deserter from the South; a dying soldier from the North; the poet Walt Whitman and his oldest friend Ralph Waldo Emerson. What follows is a *battle of ideas, in which the* fight is for the soul of America itself. Tickers reduced from £9 to £6. Tel 081-743 3388

Lyric Theatre
Hammersmith
March 30-April 1
● AFTER four years away, the satirical trio Fascinating Aida make a welcome return to the stage, with a whole new *generation of great targets* waiting for the FA treatment, from political correctness to genetic mutation, supermodels to adultery. Original performers Dillie Keane and Adele Anderson are joined by *cabaret singer and comedi*enne Issy Van Randwyck. Two tickets for the price of one (normally £15 or £13). Tel 081-741 2311

Adelphi Theatre
March 8, April 12
● ON March 12, *Sunset Boulevard* closes. On April 7 it opens again, in the award-winning Los Angeles production. Andrew McBean, the resident director, will give a talk about the changes to be made to both sets and direction after the March 8 performance. Then, on April 12, he will be back again to talk about the new-look *Boulevard* — and you could be there for both shows and talks. Tickets are £55. Tel 071-413 1428

GLASGOW
● THE Theatre Club has arranged some more special savings for members at the New Moves Festival of contemporary dance at two venues in Glasgow. Now in its seventh year, New Moves has built a reputation as one of Britain's premier dance festivals.
Tron Theatre
March 12-13
Fiona Edwards and Jamie Watton
TWO £7.50 tickets for the price of one. Tel 041-552 4267
Tramway Theatre
March 15-16
Compagnie Januari
March 18-19
Les Ballets C De La B
TWO £6 tickets for the price of one. Tel 041-227 5511



Members of the cast (and a couple of casts) of *The Fantastical Legend of Dr Faust* — see entry for Mold

HULL
New Theatre
March 22-23
● ENID Blyton's immortal Noddy chugs into Hull in his little red and yellow car, to be joined by *all* the Toytown regulars — his best friend Big Ears, Tessie Bear and Mr Plod. Club members can save £3 on adult tickets (normally £8.50). Tel 0482 226655

MOLD
Theatr Clwyd
March 24-26
● TWO tickets for the price of one (normally £7, £4 concessions) for English Shakespeare Company's production of *The Fantastical Legend of Dr Faust*. For centuries puppets have been used to tell the story of Dr Faust and Mephistopheles and this new version, by Michael Bogdanov, uses actors in giant carved moving sculptures. The models combine with live music and lighting to create a kaleidoscopic theatrical extravaganza. Tel 0352 755114

LIVERPOOL
Everyman Theatre
March 8-19
● SAVE 25 per cent on tickets (normally £7 and £4) for Hull Truck Theatre Company's production of John Godber's hilarious tale of rugby-playing folk, *Up 'n' Under II*. Tel 051-709 4776

WORCESTER
Swan Theatre
March 15-18
● TWO tickets for the price of one (normally £7.50 and £9) for the Swan Company's production of John Godber's raucous night-club comedy, *Bouncers*. But be warned: the play contains scenes and language that may offend some people. Tel 0905 27322

JOIN NOW

To Book for any of this week's special offers telephone the listed number during normal office hours. The price printed on the ticket you receive is the special price negotiated on members' behalf by the Theatre Club.

To Join the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, PO Box 2164, Colchester CO1 1GN or telephone 0206 41662 using your credit card. Please allow 28 days for delivery of your membership pack. For general enquiries please telephone 071-387 9673

PARK WITH THE THEATRE CLUB

PARKING has always been a problem when visiting the theatre in London's West End, but now the Society of London Theatres has arranged special discount parking for theatregoers at one of four car parks for just £3 an evening. The carparks are situated at Cambridge Circus, Poland Street, Trafalgar Square and Whitcomb Street. Simply request a special car park voucher when booking your tickets at any West End office. For a free car park map call 0800 243348

RECORDINGS: Legacy of an idiosyncratic jazz legend; plus the latest classical and pop releases

JAZZ

Clive Davis

■ **ROLAND KIRK**
Does Your House Have Lions
Atlantic/Rhino R2-71406 ***

HOW do you begin to discuss Rahsaan Roland Kirk? Part shaman, part street musician, he took pleasure in overturning critical and social conventions. This was the multi-instrumentalist who regularly played three saxophones simultaneously, the blind iconoclast who invented the prefix to his name after claiming to have heard the voice of God in a dream.

The music on *Does Your House Have Lions*, a two-disc anthology from the Atlantic vaults, is by turns stirring, playful and wilfully obscure — much like the man himself. Kick-started by an example of his early work with the Mingus band, the collection quickly moves its focus to the last decade of his career, prior to his death from a stroke in 1977.

His arsenal of instruments ranged from the conventional tenor and baritone saxes to the more exotic stritch and manzello, all the way down to the humble harmonica and penny whistle. He could leap from a scream of rage to the gentlest of lullabies.

The very best of his output defied categorisation, drawing on all aspects of black American music without lapsing into parody. He flirted with the avant-garde without any loss of emotional directness, and he could, when the mood took him, turn in a reassuringly orthodox set of choruses on "Bye Bye Blackbird".

Kirk was often accused of gimmickry. When he tries to play a Tin Pan Alley song and Dvořak at one and the same time — as he does on one of his Village Vanguard outings — the charge is more than justified. But those lapses have to be set against the inspired frenzy of "The Black and Crazy Blues" and "Volunteered Slavery".

□ **JEANNIE AND JIMMY CHEATHAM**
Blues and the Boogie Masters
Concord CCD-4579 **

THE real meat and potatoes from an under-rated yet superbly consistent husband and wife double-act (Jeannie on piano and vocals, Jimmy on bass trombone). If there is such a category as Laid Back Jazz-Blues, the couple's streamlined band holds the patent on the formula. Hank Crawford contributes acerbic alto saxophone on four of the eleven tracks.

□ **TOMMY SMITH**
Reminiscence
Linn AKD-024 **

A WUNDERKIND of the 1980s, the Scottish saxophonist has of late devoted more time to composition and orchestral ventures. His trio, Forward Motion, with bassist Terje Gewelt and Ian Froman on drums, continues to edge warily along the path previously explored by Jan Garbarek and others players from the ECM fold.

20TH CENTURY

Stephen Pettitt

■ **DUTILLEUX**
Symphony No 2; Timbres, Espace, Mouvement; Métaboles
Orchestre de Paris/Bychkov
Philips 438 008-2 **

HENRI Dutilleux, born in 1916 and happily still with us, has a wonderful way with sound and form. His Second Symphony, "Le Double", premiered in 1959, uses a group of 12 instrumentalists to mirror, collide or fuse with the main orchestra; hence the title. Whole new soundscapes are created, whole new dynamics: this is no updated baroque *concerto grosso*, because Dutilleux imposes no functional boundaries on his instruments.

Métaboles, first heard in 1965, is perhaps even more impressive. Here Dutilleux's approach to form is through change of material, so that an initial idea is transformed in order to form the initial idea of the succeeding section. There are five sections, each of distinctive character and title, and each with a particular orchestral group predominating.

If all that makes Dutilleux's music seem process-orientated, that is not how it sounds. Nothing is ordained by patterns; the material itself shapes the form. The titles of the outer movements of *Timbres, Espace, Mouvement* ("Nebuleuse" and "Constellations"), composed in 1978 and subtitled, after Van Gogh's painting, *La nuit étoilée*, give an indication of Dutilleux's particular, cosmic brand of mystery. Semyon Bychkov and the Orchestre de Paris, recorded in the Salle Pleyel, give potent performances of all three pieces, though the sound is a touch boomy in the bass register.



Semyon Bychkov: potent

□ **HAAS/KRASA**
String Quartets
Hawthorne Quartet
Decca 440 853-2 **

THE first instrumental disc in Decca's invaluable "Entartete Musik" series, devoted to rehabilitating unsuspected treasures banned as degenerate by the Nazis, includes the second and third quartets (1925 and 1938) by Pavel Haas and the single quartet (1921) by Hans Krasa, Czech composers who were both transported to the concentration camp at Terezin and subsequently murdered at Auschwitz. Both show original voices, more indebted to the likes of Zemlinsky than to Webern, in these first-rate works. Committed performances all by the Hawthorne Quartet.

□ **TAVENER**
Eternal Memory/ BLOCH
From Jewish Life
Isserlis/Moscow Virtuosi/Spivakov
RCA Victor Red Seal 09026 61966 2 ***

This CD single includes John Tavener's *Eternal Memory* (1991), described by its composer as a remembrance of death, and Ernest Bloch's three beautiful, elegiac pieces *From Jewish Life* (1924). The Tavener gains from uncharacteristic brevity, while both pieces reap full benefits from Steven Isserlis's intoxicatingly lovely cello sound.



ANDREW PUTLER/REDFERNS

Rahsaan Roland Kirk: like Kirk himself, the music on a new anthology documenting his career is by turns stirring, playful and wilfully obscure

OPERA

John Higgins

■ **ROSSINI**
Semiramide
Studer/Larmore/ Ramey/ Lopardo/ London Symphony Orchestra/ Marin
DG 437 797-2, 3 CDs **

SEMIRAMIDE was Rossini's last opera for an Italian theatre. He said goodbye to his homeland in the grandest style with one of his longest and most demanding works. Joan Sutherland and Marilyn Horne led its revival 30 years ago: Sutherland took the title role of the Queen of Babylon; Horne was her chosen consort, Arsace, who in best classical tradition turns out also to be her son.



Cheryl Studer: imperious

Their successors today, at least in the recording studio, are Cheryl Studer and Jennifer Larmore. And in DG's new set they are excellently equipped to carry on flying the Rossini flag. Studer may not be at her brilliant best in Semiramide's most famous aria, "Bel raggio lusinghier", where there are a few slithers, but elsewhere she is in imperious form. Larmore's mezzo has an almost masculine throb to it, and the two ladies are at their best in their duets together.

The all-American cast of principals is completed by Samuel Ramey (Assur) and Frank Lopardo (Idreno). Assur, the opera's true villain, comes into his own near the close when, like Boris Godunov, he has malign visions. Ramey is a master at that sort of scene. The Indian Prince Idreno is tangential to the action, but has two exquisite arias, which Lopardo dispatches with ease.

Ion Marin has been criticised for over-fast tempos, but an opera with close on three and a half hours of music, where everyone hastens to death or glory, needs a bit of forward thrust.

□ **TCHAIKOVSKY**
Eugene Onegin
Te Kanawa/Rosenshein/ Hampson; Welsh National Opera Orch/Mackerras
EMI CDS 5 55004 2, 2 CDs *

EMI's new *Onegin* comes in English, with the financial backing of the Peter Moores Foundation, which has long supported this form of opera. The objective of reaching a wider audience is admirable, but some works simply do not translate well. With *Onegin* the Russian idiom is lost. There is no forgetting Pushkin, despite David Lloyd Jones's fluent couplets.

Thomas Hampson in the title role is a superior being among simple huntin' folk, rejecting Tatyana with chilly courtesy before his emotions crack through in the final act. Kiri Te Kanawa's Tatyana is at her best in these two major confrontations with Onegin, but the Letter Scene is hesitantly shaped.

Neil Rosenshein is a dry-voiced and unromantic Lensky. He also has the disadvantage of Nicolai Gedda, who has sung that role as well as anyone in our time, turning in an immaculate cameo as Monsieur Triquet. Some of the smaller roles are indifferently taken, including Olga, who is fatally unbubbly. The dances are played by the WNO orchestra with fine verve and Charles Mackerras injects the score with feeling.

□ **RCA/MET**
100 Singers, 100 Years
RCA 09026-61580-2, 6 CDs **

A VALUABLE assembly of Met artists running from Marcella Sembrich, who made her debut there in 1883, to Katia Ricciarelli's arrival in 1975. RCA has access only to its own archives, so some of the Met's starriest performers are missing — Callas, Pavarotti and Sutherland among them. But the selection is especially strong in the postwar period when baritones such as Merrill and Warren had little need to come to Europe because their home following was so strong.

POP SINGLES

David Sinclair

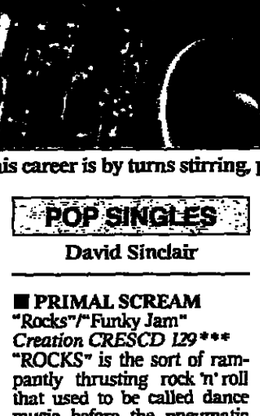
■ **PRIMAL SCREAM**
"Rocks"/"Funky Jam"
Creation CRESCD 129 ***

"ROCKS" is the sort of rampantly thrusting rock 'n' roll that used to be called dance music before the pneumatic plod of disco and its house progeny arrived on the scene.

The Rolling Stones used to be the genre's prime exponents, and here Primal Scream dutifully pick up the cues, combining a melody that is pure extract of "Brown Sugar" with a pounding four-on-the-snare drum beat straight out of "Satisfaction" via Sly and The Family Stone's "Listen To The Music".

Nul points for originality, then, but a stonking ten out of ten for the unbridled vitality and sheer fun of the performance. "Funky Jam" is the same Young Turk treatment applied to the George Clinton P-Funk sound.

Mercury Music Prize winners from 1992, Primal Scream have turned into the retro-band from hell. Lock up your record collections.



Primal Scream: sheer fun

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ **RICHARD STRAUSS**
Ein Heldenleben; Metamorphosen
San Francisco Symphony/ Blomstedt
Decca 436 596-2 ***

THE high-flown rhetoric of Richard Strauss's self-portrait, modestly titled "A Hero's Life", is always in danger of sounding like bombast. Put to such blatantly autobiographical purpose, Strauss's music, at its most grandiose and expansive, can take on a less than attractive quality in the wrong hands.

This superb new recording from Herbert Blomstedt and the San Francisco Symphony, however, sweeps all such reservations aside. The flood of golden tone that Blomstedt unleashes from his orchestra — one of the world's greatest — never makes the rhetoric seem excessively heavy or oppressive: it is a sympathetic, tasteful representation of heroism that keeps it on the right side of vulgarity.

Not that anything is underplayed: after the finely detailed but opulent opening section, the portrayal of the Hero's Adversaries is a wonderfully pungent cacophony of cackling critics. The taxing violin solo depicting the Hero's Companion can be a liability, but not here: Raymond Kobler modulates eloquently between the playful and the emotional, just as the composer's wife Pauline (the model for the portrait) apparently did.

Even in the more protracted sections, one does not get impatient with the composer, thanks to Blomstedt's firm grasp of the work's architecture. He steers it surefootedly to a satisfying conclusion, with a profoundly serene glow for the hero's escape from the traumas of the world, and an incandescent final chord.

Metamorphosen is a happily chosen companion-piece — like *Heldenleben* it pays homage to Beethoven's "Eroica" — and Blomstedt's performance only increases one's admiration for this finely-wrought, poignant lament for the catastrophes of the war years.

□ **BEETHOVEN**
Symphonies Nos 5 and 6
NDR-Sinfonieorchester/ Wand
RCA Victor Red Seal 09026 61930 2 ***

THE Fifth and Sixth Symphonies of Beethoven himself can be heard in electrifying live performances recorded by Günter Wand. The Fifth especially has all the intensity, granite-like strength and spiritual fervour that we have come to expect in Wand's conducting. However many times you have heard this warhorse of the repertoire, you should not miss this titanic reading, gripping from first note to last.

POP ALBUMS

David Sinclair

■ **INSPIRAL CARPETS**
Devil Hopping
Cow/Mute DUNG25CD **

INSPIRAL Carpets haven't done badly for a band with no particular image or defining characteristic other than a spectacularly silly name. But, having had the good fortune to get started in Manchester when that was the fashionable place to be, they have stuck to the job in hand with greater tenacity than their more flamboyant contemporaries, and are now reaping the rewards.

Devil Hopping, their fourth album in little more than four years, is an engaging collection of songs which tend to romp along at a sprightly clip. Fastest of all is the bracing, punkish surge of their current hit, "I Want You". On the album version Mark E. Smith's ranting vocalese is replaced by the more orthodox singing of Tom Hingley, and the song sounds all the better for it.

Hingley also turns in fine performances on "Plutoman" and "Uniform", numbers that are haunted by the spirit of Julian Cope, right down to the eminently hummable choruses with words that are too awkward actually to sing along to.

On other tracks it is Clint Boon's organ which dominates, a sound with its provenance located somewhere between the playing of Dave Greenfield of the Stranglers and Sooty and Sweep. Add a few loping, dancefloor beats, as on the irresistible "Party In The Sky", stir in yet more slightly dopey lyrics about starshine, secret agents and goldfishes, and *voilà*: an album designed for modern rock fans, with some attractively retro touches, but well abreast of the dance-orientated mood of the times.

VOCAL

Hilary Finch

■ **BERLIOZ**
Messe Solennelle
Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique/ Monteverdi Choir/ Eliot Gardiner
Philips 442 137-2 **

EXHUME at your peril! That is now John Eliot Gardiner's advice to anyone who, like him, might rashly offer to take charge of a newly discovered manuscript, prepare its first performance since 1827, tour it, and then record it. The release of this disc, the world premiere recording of the 20-year-old Berlioz's *Messe solennelle*, rediscovered in Antwerp in 1992 and recorded live last October at Westminster Cathedral, offers the opportunity to judge whether it was all worth the effort.

There are times when one wonders whether the work were written for a choir of gargoyles, so perverse, even grotesque, is some of the word setting. And the long, chuntering crescendo of the Kyrie certainly makes it clear why this composer's music was chosen for the opening of the Channel Tunnel. It is a tribute to Eliot Gardiner's deep understanding of Berlioz, his skill in balance and pacing, and to the enthusiasm of his choir and orchestra that a disjointed and technically awkward piece can suddenly be reborn as much more than a sum of its parts.

The Mass is a tribute to Berlioz, too. For here, still tingling with the shock of the new, are his original ideas for the *Carnaval Romain* — and what an inspired and audacious Gloria they make! Even more revealing is the embryonic material for his "Scene aux champs" in the *Symphonie fantastique*.



John Eliot Gardiner: rash?

□ **ROMANTIC SONGS**
Thomas Hampson/ Geoffrey Parsons
EMI CDC 5 55047 2 ***

BERLIOZ is in Gaelic mood, Wagner sets German romantic poets in French, and Liszt is overheard writing music for Tennyson's "Go not happy day". What can this be? The American baritone Thomas Hampson, not content with singing in the most meaningful Mahler and the most glamorous musicals, can also put together a mean song recital. Here are three composers seen in the most unlikely light, put in fascinating context in the accompanying booklets, and sung with the linguistic ease and sense of style which characterises Hampson's performances.

We discover, too, that Berlioz published his *Mémoires* while Lincoln was being assassinated; that Wagner can write music for "*images fugitives*" as well as the next man; and that Heine on the Rhine is calmer far in the pen of Liszt than in Schumann. An irresistible recital.

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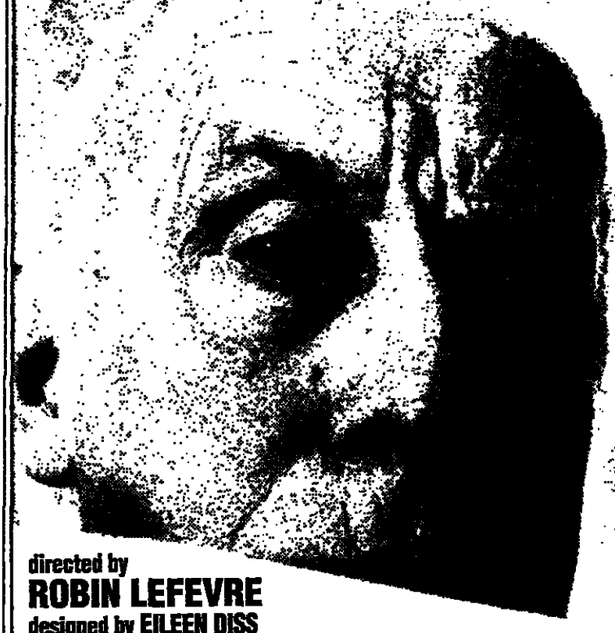
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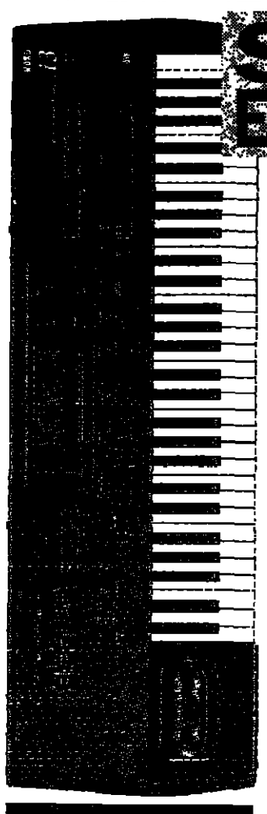
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MANCHESTER ON SHOW

Delights in a dramatic setting

The industrial buildings of Britain's City of Drama house a wealth of cultural attractions



CHRIS HARRIS

Sculpture by Zadok Ben-David included in the Castlefield Gallery's tenth birthday exhibition: the celebrations for Manchester's year as City of Drama embrace museums and galleries as well as theatres

The Royal Exchange Theatre is an apt symbol for what makes Manchester a city to value, a city for all seasons. The building's vast, domed central hall was once the largest room in Europe. But then nobody wanted to exchange cotton any more. The directors of the homeless 69 Theatre Company took a look and suggested building a theatre inside. So the Victorian pillars and Victorian dome were kept in place, and a seven-sided metal tent of a theatre arose in the middle.

In times of serious change a city, like a species, survives by adapting well. Manchester kept its ring roads well outside the centre, and its council respected the quality of the fabric it inherited. A wealth of fine industrial buildings survives. The Greater Manchester International Exhibition and Events Centre (GMEX), for example, is built in the train hall of what used to be Central Railway Station.

The civic vigour which has brought about the revitalisation of old buildings is evident in other ways too. Manchester's greatest musical institution, the Hallé Orchestra, expects to play its first fanfare in its new concert hall in 1996: the hall is already climbing above ground level. And although the city lost the Olympics bid, it did persuade the Arts Council to name it City of Drama 1994. The accolade is fitting. Manchester contains more theatres than anywhere in the country apart from London, and it has developed several others since winning the bid.

At the Royal Exchange the summer's high spot will be a two-part adaptation of *The Count of Monte Cristo*. Manchester-born David Threlfall is to play the sailor unjustly imprisoned on one island and provided with unimaginable wealth from the treasure buried on another.

Already this year a two-part show has been seen at the Contact Theatre, where Tony Kushner's *Angels in America* made its first appearance outside London's National Theatre. An even more impressive coup occurs on March 16 and for ten days thereafter, with the English premiere of Peter Brook's *The Man Who...* based on the Oliver Sacks book about the unfortunate Dr P. who mistook his wife for a hat. The Contact is an excellent medium-size theatre, belonging to the University. Meanwhile, the new Pam Gems play, *Deborah's Daughter*, has opened this week at the Library Theatre, owned by the city council and, ironically in this of all years, threatened with closure had the Government's financial cuts proved too severe.

These three venues are the major repertory companies of central Manchester. But Drama 94 extends across the nine outer boroughs of Greater Manchester. There, the Octagon at Bolton and the Oldham Coliseum are presenting new work and opening their first studio theatres.

Back in the centre, coach parties still come from as far as Glasgow to see Lloyd Webber's *Phantom*, appropriately playing in the Opera House, while at the 2,000-seat Palace Yukio Ninagawa's production of *Peer Gynt* plays for three nights after its run at London's Barbican (see review, page 5).

At the Nia Centre, Europe's first purpose-built centre for African and Caribbean performance, Norman Beaton became the first black King Lear to be seen in Britain since the middle of the 19th century. And yet another new theatre opened in February, in the top third of an Art Deco former cinema on Oxford Road: the Dancehouse has already been home to Jerome Deschamp's mime company and *Beautiful Thing*, the Bush Theatre of London's first ever tour.

Greater Manchester has much more to offer the arts-lover than the Year of Drama. Note, for instance, Oldham's enterprise in honouring one of its most famous sons: the composer Sir William Walton, who was born there in 1902. This year's Walton Festival weekend (see Queen Elizabeth Hall, below, details) includes performances of *Belshazzar's Feast*, *Façade* and *The Bear*, as well as the inauguration of a new Walton archive. Another reason to visit one of Europe's great cultural centres.

JEREMY KINGSTON



Around town: things to see; places to eat

MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

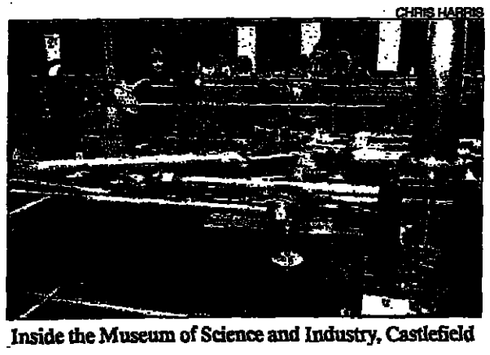
ON NO account miss the **City Art Galleries**, housed in a severe Neo-Classical building on Princess Street. In the rooms upstairs hang a good lot of British surrealists and wall after wall of Pre-Raphaelites — versions of *The Light of the World*, *The Scapegoat* and several Ford Madox Brown faces showing his curious fondness for crooked teeth.

The **Whitworth Art Gallery**, part of the University, is packed with textiles, prints and other works on paper including, all this year, wallpapers from the Palladio range of the 1950s.

The **Museum of Science and Industry**, Castlefield, is housed in the buildings of the world's oldest passenger station. Included in the history of the world's first industrial city (in other words, of Manchester) is a restored Victorian sewer said to incorporate appropriate sounds and smells.

Manchester Jewish Museum opened ten years ago in the former Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue on Cheetham Hill Road. An exhibition from March 20 titled "Almonds and Raisins" will contain a scale model of the vanished Jewish Quarter.

The **John Rylands Library**, holds the choicest collection of rare books and manuscripts in the North. A reader's ticket is easy to obtain, but visit the place anyway for a glimpse of the building, a rose-pink Gothic fantasy of vaulting shafts and pierced stonework.



Inside the Museum of Science and Industry, Castlefield

WHERE TO EAT

☐ **Athenaeum** *1 York St/ Spring Gardens 061-833 3784.* Once a NatWest bank designed to entice the Emperor Nero into opening an account: mosaic floor, coffered ceiling, heroic columns. Now a café bar serving light meals. A calm oasis in the afternoon, trendy later, and offering theme evenings.

☐ **Brasserie St Pierre** *57-63 Princess St 061-228 0231.* Beside the Town Hall, French and charming, little tables arranged under a canopy of birch twigs. Seafood a speciality.

☐ **The Curry Mile** *Along the Wilmslow Rd, Rusholme, two miles from city centre.* An uncountable number of Indian restaurants. Let your nose and eyes guide you.

☐ **The Market Restaurant** *104 High St, Smithfield 061-834 3743.* Modern British and intimate.

☐ **Yang Sing** *34 Princess St 061-236 2200.* Recommended as one of the finest Chinese restaurants anywhere. A 240-item menu plus 50 further dishes of the day.

GENERAL

☐ **Manchester Visitors Centre** *061-234 3157/8*

☐ **Manchester City of Drama**, *061-242 2555*

EXHIBITIONS

☐ **Castlefield Centre**, *061-834 4026.* Tenth birthday exhibition runs until April 16.

☐ **Chinese Arts Centre**, *061-236 9251.* Everything you need to know about China and things Chinese.

☐ **City Art Galleries**, *061-236 5244*

☐ **Cornerhouse**, *061-228 2463*

☐ **Granada Studios tour**, *061-832 9090 or 061-833 0880.* Britain's only film and TV tour.

☐ **John Rylands Library**, *061-834 5343*

☐ **Manchester Jewish Museum**, *061-834 9879*

☐ **Museum of Science and Industry**, *061-832 1830*

☐ **Whitworth Art Gallery**, *061-273 4865*

PERFORMANCE VENUES

Theatre tickets and general enquiries:

☐ **Coliseum Theatre**, Fairbottom St, Oldham: *061-624 2829*

☐ **Contact Theatre**, Oxford Rd: *061-274 4400.* The English premiere of Peter Brook's *The Man Who...* runs from March 16 to March 26.

☐ **Dancehouse**, 10 Oxford Rd: *061-242 2555*

☐ **Free Trade Hall**, Peter St: *061-834 1712*

☐ **Green Room**, 54-56 Whitworth St West: *061-236 1677*

☐ **Library Theatre**, Central Library, St Peter's Square: *061-236 7110.* Pam Gems's *Deborah's Daughter* runs to March 26.

☐ **Nia Centre**, Chichester Rd: *061-227 9254.*

☐ **Octagon Theatre and Studio**, Howell Croft South, Bolton: 0204 20661

☐ **Opera House**, Quay St: *061-242 2501. Phantom of the Opera* runs to the end of October.

☐ **Palace Theatre**, Oxford St: *061-242 2503.* Yukio Ninagawa's production of *Peer Gynt* plays for three nights on March 17, 18 and 19.

☐ **Queen Elizabeth Hall**, West St, Oldham: *061-678 4072.* The Festival of Walton's music runs from March 18 to 20.

☐ **Royal Exchange**, St Ann's Square: *061-833 9833. The Count of Monte Cristo* runs from May 18 to August 6.

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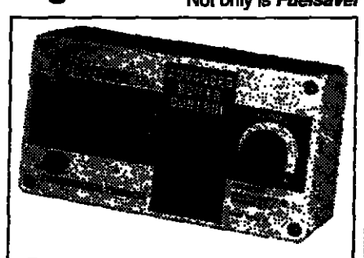
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TIS-3-94

Your masterpiece is in the post

In the first of a series on shopping by mail, a look at ideas for arty gifts from New York

NEW York's Metropolitan Museum of Art offers some of the most unusual and elegant objects around in its mail-order catalogues. It is invaluable for sending presents within the United States and a great source of gift and decorative ideas in general.

Charges for shipping goods to Britain are made according to the amount spent, from $7 (£5) for orders up to $15 to $19.50 (£13) for orders over $75. Additional charges are customs and VAT (on goods and shipping). Shipment may take four to six weeks, but an express shipping service is available at an additional, due on delivery. Payment is by credit card or a dollar cheque.

The pick of the Spring 1994 catalogue includes:

The Goddess Uma: This 14in bonded bronze reproduction (pictured right) of a 9th or 10th-century Nepalese sculpture is set with faux turquoise and amber stones. $295 (£198).

Figure of an Athlete: Hellenic in style but probably from Egypt, the original of this reproduction dates from the first century. The 8in statue costs $125 (£84) when made from bonded bronze, $895 (£600) in bronze.

Library Lion Bookends: Cast marble reproductions of the lions which flank the New York Public Library, 7¾in x 7⅝in. Give your paperbacks a patrician feel for $98 (£66).

Stained Glass — Grape Arbour: For $95 (£64) you can buy an exquisite 8⅛in x 22½in reproduction of a Tiffany design of bunches of grapes clustered against a sunrise-yellow sky. It is made by silk screening 18 stained-glass enamel colours on to hand-rolled glass.

Marriage Box: Reproduced from a 17th-century Fresian design, the silver box is engraved with joined hands and allegorical figures of trust, hope, prudence, love and tenderness. Available in silver plate at $72 (£48) and sterling silver at $235 (£158).

Pre-Columbian Pendant and Earrings: This elegant Tolima-style jewellery is plated with 24 carat gold and the pendant comes on a black silk cord. Based on a pre-Columbian nose ornament, they are elegant and understated, costing $60 (£40) and $54 (£35).

Matisse ties: Two designs based on *Seville Still Life* and hand-made of silk twill in Italy. The flower tie comes in blue/gold and blue/burgundy, the scroll tie in wine/blue/gold for $35 (£23).

Posters: The Met also has a poster catalogue featuring Monet, Hockney, Dufy, Van Gogh, Matisse, O'Keeffe, Hopper, Tiffany and 17th-century Japanese paintings on gold paper. Many of the designs are available here but if you buy direct you can claim a free poster (worth up to $14.95, £10) with every three you pay for. Many of the posters can be bought framed.

The museum's Christmas Gifts Catalogue is the *pièce de résistance*. Make sure you are on the mailing list for the 1994 edition. With luck, the Roman Arch design tie will still be available in black or burgundy silk twill: it is drop-dead chic at $29.50 (£20).

Telephone 010 1 800 468 7386 or 010 1 718 326 7050 to request copies of any of these catalogues, or write to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Special Service Office, Middle Village, New York, 11381-0001.

STEPHANIE LEWIS



The goddess Uma, reproduced in bonded bronze from a Nepalese sculpture of the 9th or 10th century. The original probably was one of a pair with Siva, her husband. Her right hand may have rested on his thigh and her left hand may have held a lotus.

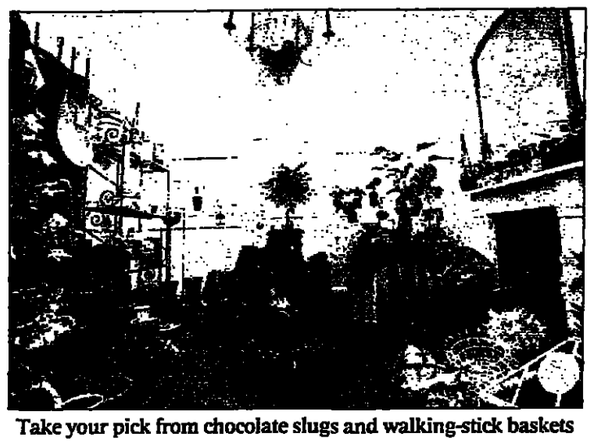
JULIAN HERBERT



From the bizarre to the beautifully practical, the Garden Treats shop is overflowing with ideas for gifts with a gardening theme

Gifts for a growing market

Stuck for a present for a green-fingered friend? Here is a new shop in which to dig around



Take your pick from chocolate slugs and walking-stick baskets

Not every garden lover would appreciate a spade or bag of compost as a birthday or anniversary present, so The Chelsea Gardener, in south-west London, has opened an extension called Garden Treats, which specialises in gifts and accessories with a gardening theme.

Among the more unusual offerings is an old, 4in-high terracotta pot filled with chocolate slugs, snails and worms (£4.95), an ideal gift idea for anyone with a taste for chocolate and a sense of humour.

Another inspired present, especially for a friend whose idea of gardening is limited to snipping the odd tea rose for the drawing-room, is the Romantic English Woman's Garden Collection, which comprises bath salts, soap, a bath-scenting herb bag and a nailbrush all packed neatly into a little hessian bag (£11.95).

Other scented gifts include pot-pourri in two fragrances (hyacinth/rose and orange/cinnamon, at £12.95 each), and scented candles in silver-plated pots which can be used as posy vases when the candles are finished (£24.95).

Here, too, are hand-painted bone china mugs bearing horticultural motifs, horticultural prints and pictures including watercolours on rice paper by Emma Tennant and flower vases in ceramic, glass and silver plate. Hammocks are also available.

On the practical front, the shop offers a Walking Stick Basket — a stick with a small basket woven around it below the handle in which to carry such gardening accessories as secateurs and packets of seeds. It is handmade in Suffolk for the Chelsea Gardener and costs £34.95.

Garden Treats will soon introduce a new stick-on-a-basket. This accessory basket, or gardening caddy, will have double handles and a built-in spike which can be stuck into the ground.

For garden groupies, the shop sells a range of gold-plated jewellery from America, including a watering-can pendant (£69.98) with matching ear-rings (from £29.95). For apiarists, there is a range of bees and hives as pendants and ear-rings at similar prices. Brooches in sterling silver featuring a fork and spade cost £39.95.

S. L.

● *Garden Treats, 123-125 Sydney Street, London SW3 (071-351 0197) has no catalogue but will post gifts.*

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THE TIMES Dalí TOKEN 7



THE TIMES
OWN YOUR OWN DALÍ

SALVADOR DALÍ, perhaps the most flamboyant artist of this century, is the subject of the Hayward Gallery's exhibition "Salvador Dalí: The Early Years", which runs in London until May 29, sponsored by Banco Bilbao Vizcaya.

The exhibition, which forms part of the Spanish Festival, includes more than 50 paintings and drawings, as well as documents and photographs. This is the first exhibition to focus on his early work and examines what led to that inimitable Dalí style.

To mark the event, *The Times* is offering readers the chance to own an exclusive free print of Dalí's 1930 painting *The Font*. The print is 750mm by 492mm, with a border, and reproduced on heavyweight art paper.

To take advantage of this offer, complete the coupon (top left) and send it with your six tokens collected from The *Times* (an extra token is printed today) to: *The Times* Dalí Print Offer, PO Box 2002, Romford, Essex RM3 8GQ. Please enclose a cheque or postal order for £1.98, made payable to FM Limited, to cover postage and packaging.

If you missed any of the six tokens printed in *The Times* from Saturday, February 26 to Friday, March 4, backdate copies are available from: *The Times* Backdates Department, PO Box 479, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9BD (071-782 6137). Enclose £1.15 per copy.

Readers can also collect their print in person from the following centres on Friday, March 18, 10am-noon and 2-4pm: Global Video, 12-14 Moss Side Road, Shawlands, Glasgow; MFA Limit ed, 10 Ashton Gate, Ashton Road, Romford, Essex; R&L, 5 Bishop's Road, Cleeve, Bristol; and Fox Hayes, Solicitors, Bank House, 150 Roundhay Road, Leeds.

This offer is subject to availability.

THE SUNDAY TIMES



HOW TO GET A SECOND FREE DALÍ PRINT

Readers of *The Times* can get a second free Dalí print — the 1927 painting *Apparatus and Hand*. See *The Sunday Times* tomorrow for full details.

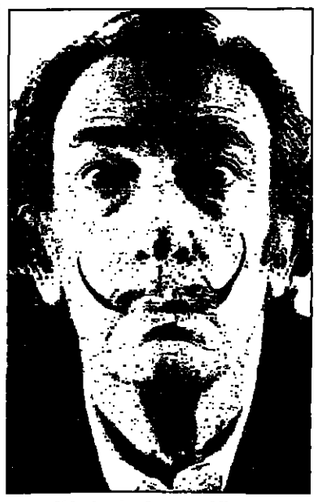
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Salvador Dalí reader offers



Dalí in typical pose. His work is now on show in London

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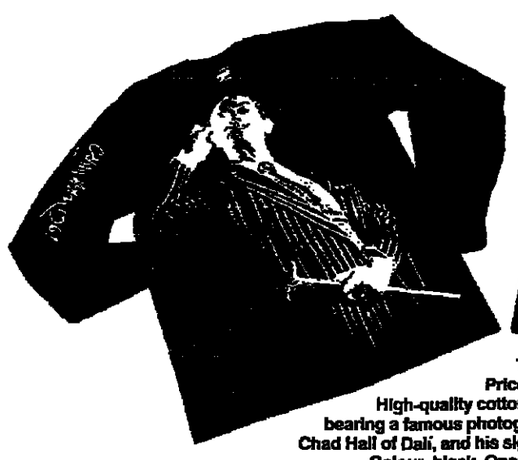
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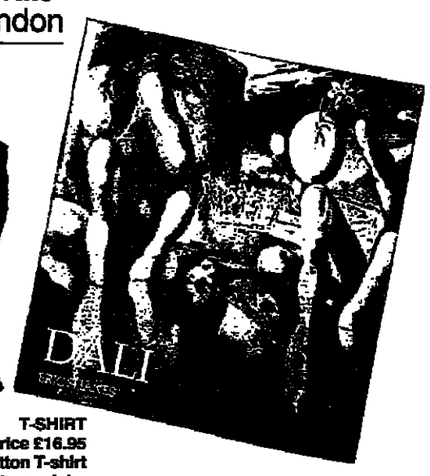
Take your pick of buys with a touch of genius

We present three selected offers to celebrate the showing of Salvador Dalí's work in London

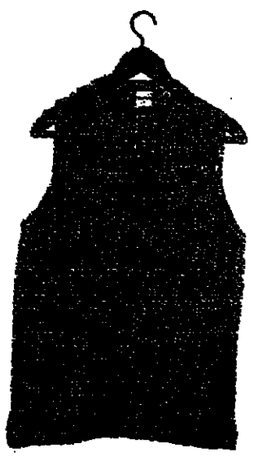


T-SHIRT
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High-quality cotton T-shirt bearing a famous photograph by Chad Hall of Dalí, and his signature. Colour, black. One size, XL.

THE DALÍ PHOTOGRAPHY BOOK
Price £14.95
This magnificent 40-page book has 56 black-and-white photographs by Robert Whitaker of the Spanish artist. The book is available only through *The Times* and the Hayward Gallery



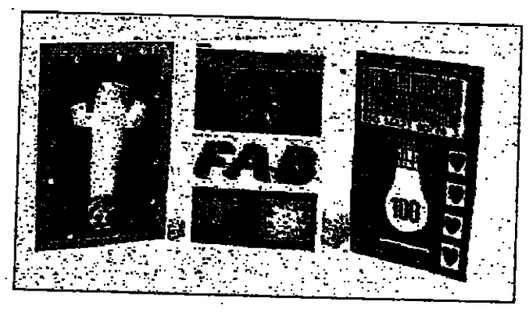
The environmentally conscious consumer now has the muscle in the marketplace to create a commercial demand, but who is meeting it?



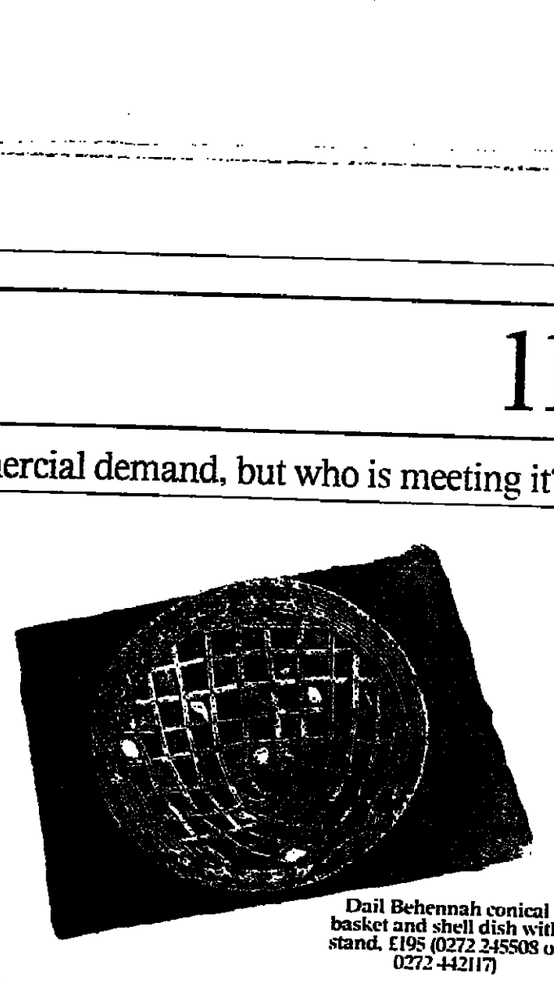
Waistcoat made of organic linen from flax grown without the use of pesticides, from the Esprit "ecollection", £89, at 6 Sloane Street, London SW1X 9LE (071-245 9139)



Eco Emporium large shaving mirror made from disused slate, £19.99, available at 9-11 Corporation Street, Birmingham B2 4LP (mail order, 021-643 7301)

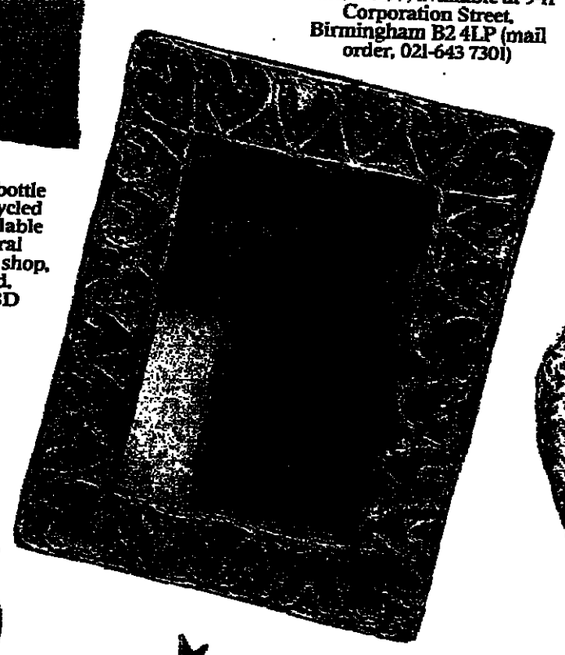


Craig Yamey handmade cards, from £2.50, available from Paperchase branches; Liberty, Regent Street, London W1R 6AH; Nature Shop, 21 Endell Street, London WC2H 9BJ (mail order, 081-455 1805)

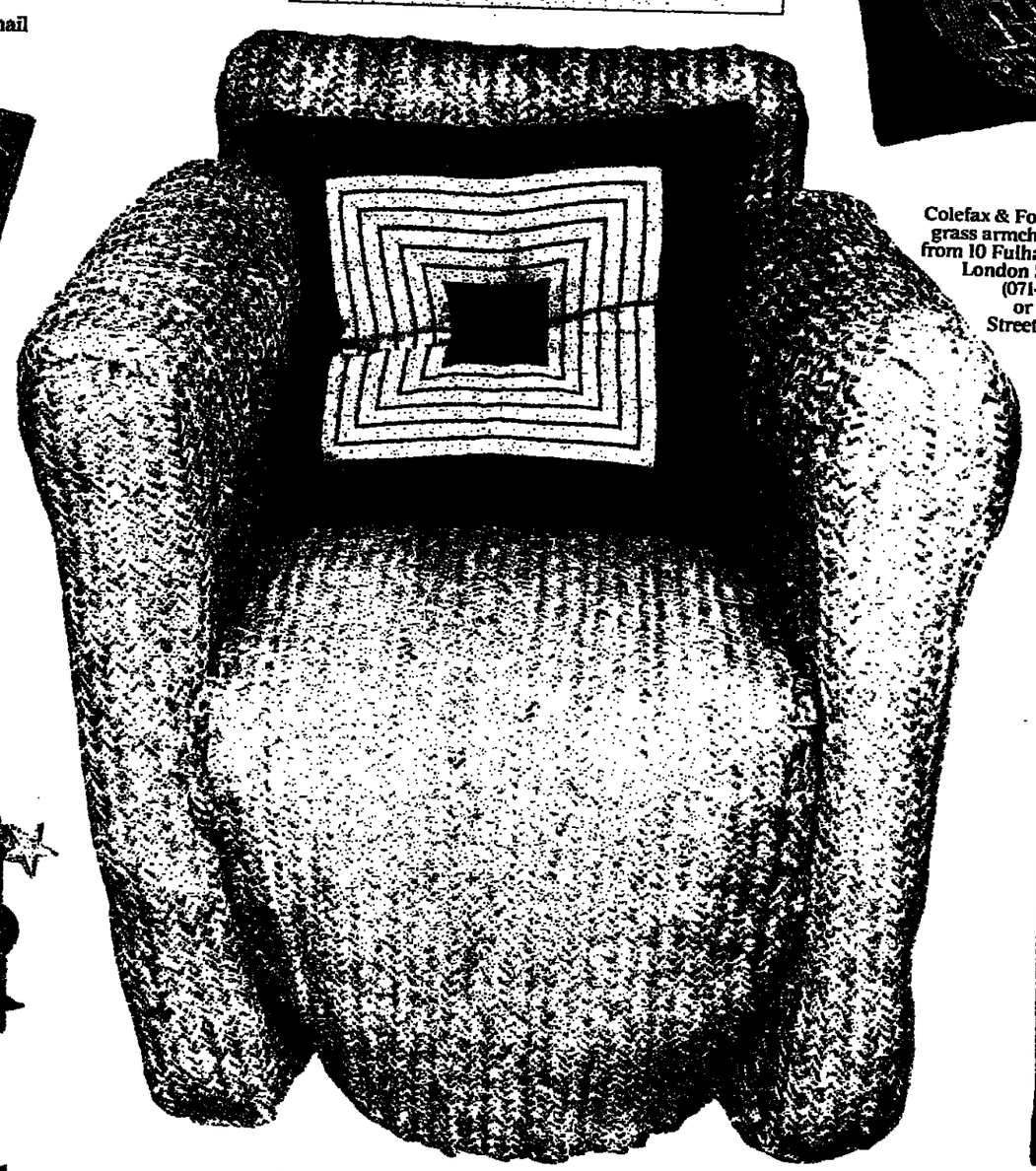


Dail Behennah conical basket and shell dish with stand, £195 (0272 245508 or 0272 442117)

Photographs by Hylton Allcock

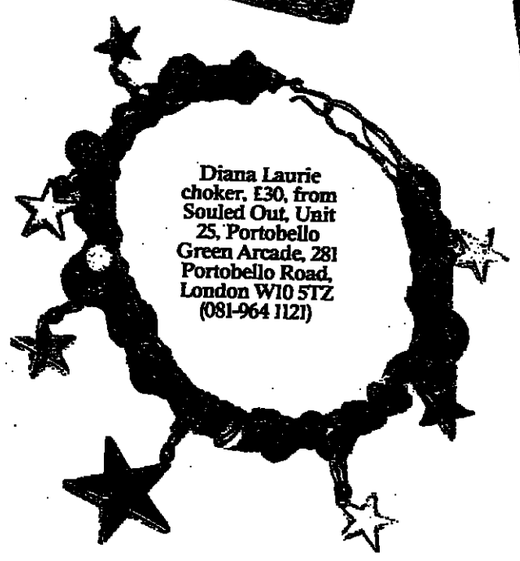


Large olive oil bottle made from recycled glass, £3.99, available from the Natural History Museum shop, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD (071-938 9123)

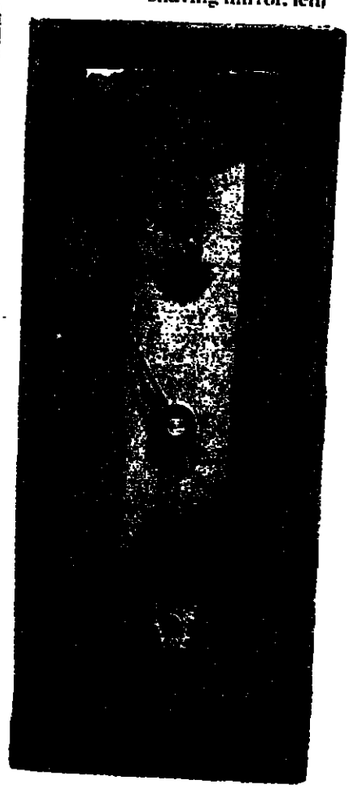


Colefax & Fowler, sea-grass armchair, £360, from 10 Fulham Road, London SW3 6RL (071-244 7427) or 39 Brook Street, London W1Y 2JE





Diana Laurie choker, £30, from Souled Out, Unit 25, Portobello Green Arcade, 281 Portobello Road, London W10 5TZ (081-964 1121)



Clock made from disused slate, £19.99, from Eco Emporium (details as for shaving mirror, left)

Shop naturally and save the planet

Shops are learning to cater for an increasingly environmentally aware public. This spring — and not for the first time — the "natural" look is in vogue, and furnishings, clothes and accessories are turned out in natural linens, colours and textures. But all the ecru cotton and brown paper packaging in the world cannot guarantee that a product is ecologically sound.

One of the few clothing firms to commit itself to using organically grown fabrics and avoiding toxic manufacturing processes is Esprit, which launched its first "ecollection" in 1992. The ecollection also includes accessories, jewellery and buttons — hand-painted, recycled glass or tagua nut — which can be bought separately to pep up an outfit.

The nut buttons are harvested from the tagua tree, a palm native to the endangered Esmeraldas rainforest region of Ecuador; so providing local people with income from the trees which, otherwise, they might chop down. Reconstituted glass buttons are made in Ghana out of old ground-up bottles. There are also charm bracelets, cuff links and pendants made from reclaimed silver, extracted by an enzyme process from used film.

Paper is still one of the worst areas of waste in Britain. The latest figures for total consumption of paper and cardboard are about 9.5 million tonnes a year. Although corporate recycling has doubled, from 7,000 tonnes in 1989 to 14,000 tonnes in 1992, domestic paper recycling is still marginal. Paper now accounts for a third of the contents of domestic household dustbins.

Recycled paper has come a long way since it was first produced in rough and unattractive reams. You can now buy sophisticated writing paper, envelopes, wrapping paper and notepads made from tree-free or recycled paper.

Paperchase offers one of the most comprehensive lines of recycled paper products, including writing sets, sketch pads and cards, which come in a range of finishes from creamy parchment to worthy brown. Another source of stylish recycled paper is the Japanese store Muji, which has branches in London and Glasgow (details below), and stocks strong boxes and drawers in unbleached, recycled cardboard. These make ideal filing cabinets.

To start children off on the paper-saving trail, the John Adams Trading Company (details below) produces a paper-making kit (£16.95) for youngsters from eight to 14, available by mail order. It contains two wooden frames to mould the pulp, and drying cloths to press the paper flat, so all you need is lots of used paper. It has instructions on how to make coloured, petalled or scented paper.

As any resourceful art student will tell you, found objects are one of the most exciting means of recycling. Craig Yamey, a graphics student at the University of Brighton, started making gift cards from recycled materials to support himself through college; he now sells to Liberty, Paperchase and the Nature Shop. His designs begin with a base of recycled card to which he adds scraps from bins, pieces of tin can, images torn from magazines and junk from car boot sales, even skips.

Another scavenger of skips is Dail Behennah, a basket maker, who uses discarded telephone wire and *poeluti* cane from the Indonesian rainforest to weave her intricate designs. She scours the beaches of Devon and Cornwall for slate and shells to incorporate in her basket bowls, trays and dishes.

For many ecologically minded craftspeople, the real difficulty is in finding outlets to sell their work, which is why Boris Llambias and Charles Moase have founded the Eco Emporium, a mail order catalogue which offers ecologically sound *objets d'art* and jewellery. "We are trying to get away from the preconception that objects made from rubbish will look like something out of *Blue Peter*," Mr Llambias says. "We show that by using a little creativity and what's left on the street you can create desirable work." Gifts include copper cross pendants made out of bits of water-coolant systems from old drinks machines, shaving mirrors from damaged roof slates and papier-mâché bowls made from newspapers.



Candlestick, £3.99, Natural History Museum

More gifts can be found at the Natural History Museum's shop, which sells recycled Spanish glass items including chunky candlesticks, a Mediterranean-looking olive oil bottle and tumblers. Diana Laurie makes earrings, chokers and rings from coiled copper wire threaded with old glass beads and stones, available from Souled Out.

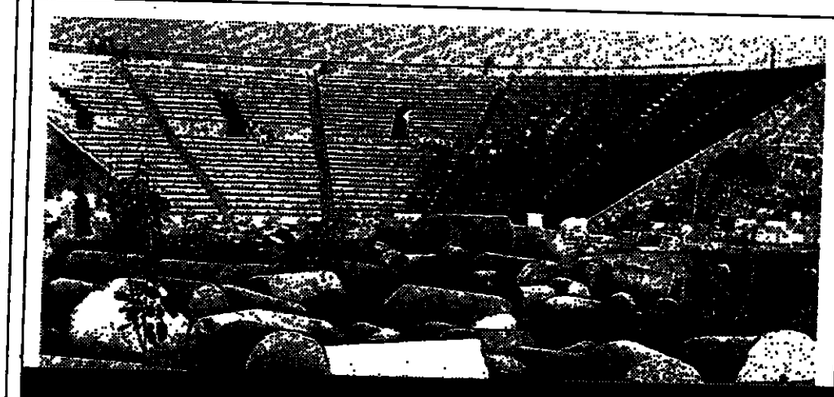
World of Difference at the London Ecology Centre (details below) stocks reasonably priced everyday household articles, including washable nappies, biodegradable ballpoint pens and toothbrushes with removable brush heads. All these are also available by mail order. Still on personal hygiene, Trust produces long-life herbal underarm and foot deodorants which are effective from five to 15 days. Trust products are available from some branches of Boots and John Lewis.

Colefax & Fowler has a wide choice of rustic furniture, including garden seats and benches made from discarded branches, and armchairs covered in seagrass. Natural floor coverings are a smart compromise between bare floors and carpeting, and they are also extremely fashionable. Crucial Trading (details below) stocks 120 different types in a range of colours, weaves and fibres, including seagrass and coir, a coconut husk by-product.

The European Commission has set up an "ecolabelling scheme" to grant labels to products which satisfy "cradle-to-grave environmental criteria". But so far only one EC ecolabel has been awarded, to a range of Hoover New Wave washing machines which met the stipulations on reduced energy, water and detergent consumption.

ALICIA DRAKE

● *Muji (071-494 1197), John Adams Trading Company (mail order, 0235 833066), World of Difference, London Ecology Centre, 21 Endell Street, London WC2H 9BJ (mail order, 071-379 8208). Crucial Trading, 77-79 Westbourne Park Road, London W2 (071-221 9000).*



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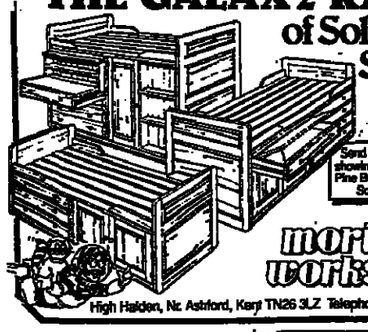
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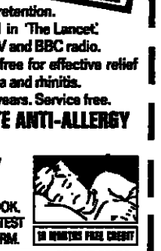
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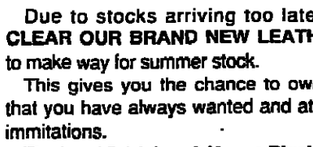
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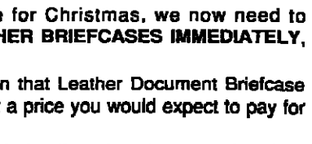
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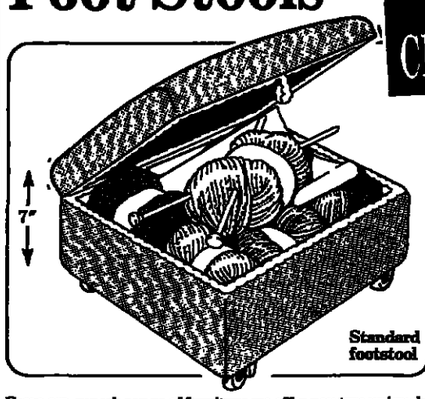
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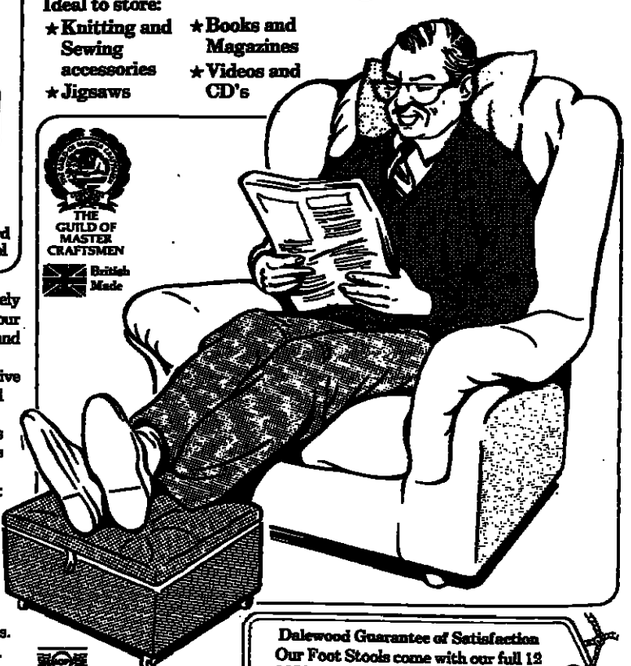
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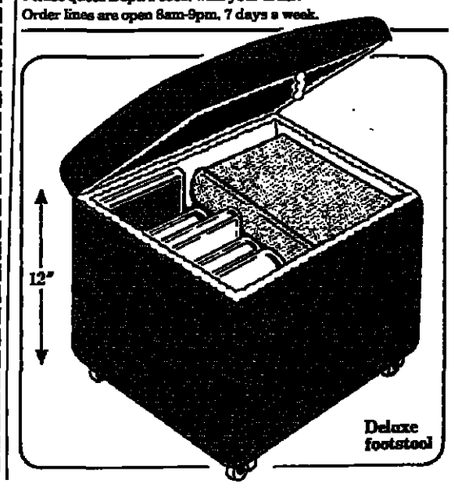
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Taking a shine to silver

Silversmiths are making pieces most people can afford, says **Michael Hall**

If you poke around at the back of many sideboard drawers, there is a chance you will disinter one of those flat black boxes that contain a set of silver apostle spoons. Does anybody ever use them? Although silver's traditional association with moments of celebration in our lives has survived, there is often uncertainty about its role in an informal world.

Yet collecting contemporary silver is an excellent way to acquire pieces that deserve to be used, not left forgotten in a drawer or, like so many antiques, consigned to a bank vault. Take the example of the recently retired Dean of Lichfield Cathedral, John Lang. In 1990 he oversaw the commission of an entire set of plate for Lichfield from 17 British smiths. This imaginative act of patronage opened his eyes not only to the quantity of talent available, but to its remarkable diversity.

As a result, he has set about forming a collection of napkin rings made for him by the smiths responsible for the Lichfield commission. And anybody who associates buying silver with trips to the Bond Street dealers in London will be amazed that such an impressive group of work can be assembled for such a modest outlay. No ring has cost more than £150, and most were under £100.

Mr Lang brings a touch of campaigning zeal to his collecting: he breaks with strict social convention by using the rings at dinner parties, so that his guests can appreciate skills which he feels are seriously underrated. "It's like an exhibition — everybody notices them and talks about them. I hope they'll go off and commission something themselves," he says.

The pursuit of antiques cannot match the special pleasures involved in such collecting. As well as the comparatively low cost, there is the enjoyment of dealing with a craftsman or woman, and of becoming involved with the design and manufacture. Mr Lang is discussing his latest commission with Jocelyn Burton, one of the few women to have achieved distinction in the craft. She has suggested a design from Lichfield Cathedral's Gothic arcades, set off by a piece of lapis lazuli, but the precise form is still to be decided. "Napkin rings shouldn't roll about", Miss Burton says, "so I think it may be square or oval, although we're talking about hexagonal as well."

Some collectors of antique silver have been diffident about moving into the contemporary world, because of the craft's associations with the unfashionable sleek forms of 1960s Scandinavian modernism. However, the rising generation of smiths has been much influenced by the revival of interest in Victorian and Arts-and-Crafts design, with results that often sit happily with antique pieces.

The much-admired work of Rod Kelly, a Norfolk smith, is a good example. He is a specialist in the art of chasing, a decorative technique which involves moulding the surface of the silver by hammering.

Although best known for large pieces of plate, such as rosewater bowls for colleges at Oxford and Cambridge or livery companies, Mr Kelly is happy to make smaller pieces for private collectors. He has made thimbles for collectors, for example, and has contributed to an American professor's extraordinary collection of antique and modern fish slices.

Particularly covetable are Mr Kelly's beakers — hand-raised from a flat sheet of silver by an astonishing amount of hammering and then chased. Such a piece will cost about £700-£800, but it is possible to commission the decoration of a ready-made beaker for less.

The range of styles offered by smiths today is evident in a glance at Mr Lang's napkin rings: the simple, highly polished forms of Alex Brogden's silver, for instance, could hardly be more different from Mr Kelly's intricate pieces, although the two men, now in their late thirties, are almost exact contemporaries.

Mr Brogden's intense interest in the natural world and the art of antiquity is expressed in abstract forms which are often realised by industrial processes, such as electroforming, rather than by traditional craft skills.

There are relatively few good books on contemporary British silversmiths, although aspiring collectors may be helped by the catalogues of two recent exhibitions: that of the Lichfield silver at the Victoria & Albert Museum in 1991-92 and last autumn's large display of contemporary silver by the Crafts Council. This was staged at the council's headquarters in Islington, north London, which also houses an enormous slide library containing images of work by craftsmen in all media, including silver.

Open free to the public — there is no need for an appointment — the library will be even more accessible from May when it becomes available on a new interactive computer system that will allow copies of the images to be taken away.

Anybody interested in acquiring work by a contemporary smith can also turn to the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, in the City of London.

Partly because of the inherent value of the material, silver has always been regarded as a wise choice for collectors with an eye to the future. Yet anybody who collects contemporary silver as an investment takes the risks associated with matters of fashion and taste.

As always, the wise collector will buy what he or she likes, and worry about investment second. The principal return from new silver should be the daily pleasure it provides. Take the advice not of any investment analyst but of William Burges, the great Victorian designer, who commissioned silver claret jugs of rich elaboration for his dinner parties. "What is the use of having pretty things", he said to his astonished friends, "unless one makes use of them?"

A point to be pondered by all owners of apostle spoons.

● *The author is the visual arts editor of* Country Life.

CHRIS HARRIS



Rod Kelly, in his Norfolk workshop, is a specialist in the art of chasing, and renowned for large pieces of plate, such as rosewater bowls

PAUL SANDERS



Silver napkin rings made by Rod Kelly (right) and Alex Brogden

Saleroom

PREVIEWS

☐ **Christopher Wood** looks set to excel with his "Elegant Ladies" exhibition starting on Monday. Subjects include Kate Dickens, second daughter of Charles Dickens, by Sir John Everett Millais; and Joan Clarkson, the 1930s' actress, by Philip de Laszlo, the Hungarian society artist. Most prices range from £5,000 to £50,000.

☐ The modern British and Irish paintings sale on Tuesday at **Phillips** includes an Alfred Munnings RA estimated at £40,000 to £50,000 and a classic L. S. Lowry street scene (£10,000 to £12,000).

☐ **Bonhams** is fast gaining a reputation for the bizarre. Wednesday's sale includes a fragment from Charles I's coffin which later belonged to Oscar Wilde (estimated at £300 to £400), a lock of Bonnie Prince Charlie's hair (£150 to £250) and a slipper worn by Pope Pius IX (£100 to £200).

☐ The bottle of 1945 Chateau Petrus wine on sale at **Christie's** on Thursday is unusual because its size fits no known category. It contains the equivalent of five bottles and is valued at £7,000 to £10,000.

REVIEWS

☐ A jar of wooden spoons that belonged to Elizabeth David, the late cookery writer, sold for £460 at **Phillips**. Prue Leith, the cook, paid £1,100 for a plain kitchen table. Afterwards she said everything in the sale was a "holy relic".

☐ A scale model of the Bristol Brabazon, the largest land plane, set a £3,300 record for a scratch-built plane at **Christie's South Kensington**.

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

● *Christopher Wood Gallery, 141 New Bond Street, London W1 (071-499 7411); Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, London W1 (071-495 0227); Bonhams, Montpelier Street, Knightsbridge, London SW7 (071-584 9161); Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (071-839 9060); Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (071-581 7611).*

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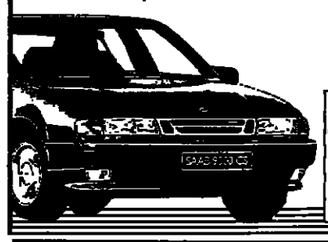
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92 (K) CD XS, Nocturne, AC, ICECD, 10K £14,995
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89 (F) 9000 2.0 T, SR, Embassy Blue £6,995
89 (F) 9000 S, SR, Platinum/blk £6,995
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90 (H) CD 2.0i, ABS, lux pack, Iridium £9,495
90 (G) 9000 2.0 T, auto, ABS, Iridium £9,495
91 (J) 9000 2.0i, EWW, Cherry £10,995
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93 (L) CSE 2.0 Eco, auto, Eucalyptus £21,995
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190E 2.6 91H Auto, White E/windows seats & roof, CD, ABS, 50k mls, FSH, £13,450 0364 661239 or 081 0626 325680

200T Est F reg Signal Red, ex-allays RC, FMFSH only 25k, immac £15,500 Sanderson 0252 [illegible]

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90 G SAAB 900T, 16s conv, auto, a/c, abs, white.
93 K SAAB 900S, LPT, conv, man, abs, leather, nocturne blue.
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93 L SAAB CD, griffin, full spec,lemans blue.
91 H 9000i, auto, lux pack, r/c, white.

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89 G NISSAN 200SX auto, turbo, coupe, pas, e/windows, e/mirrors, c/locking, gold.
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91 H VAUXHALL CARLTON 2.0, CDXi, auto, mt black.
89 F VAUXHALL CAVALIER 2.0, CDT, 5dr, 5sp, satin red.
90 G VAUXHALL SENATOR 3.0i, auto, met silver, 38,500.
92 K VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0, CDT, 5dr, red.
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90 G TOYOTA MR2 Coupe, white, 1 owner, s/roof.
92 K TOYOTA CARINA E, 1.6 GLi, 4 dr, man, blue.
91 J MR2 GT, blue, s/roof, alloys, e/windows, 27,000 miles.
93 L TOYOTA MR2 GT, t/bar, blue, ex-demo.
93 L TOYOTA 4 x RUNNER, off-road vehicle, 3.0 turbo diesel.
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94 L NISSAN 300ZX, auto, turbo, leather, e/windows,p.steering,cd.
93 L NISSAN PATROL, 4.2, GR, SGX, auto, aircon, c.d, leather, alarm, grey.
92 J NISSAN 200SX, turbo, coupe, e/windows, alarm,black,13000 miles.
90 H NISSAN 200SX, turbo, coupe, p/steering, e/windows, red, 29000 miles.
92 K NISSAN 100NX, targa coupe, p/steering, e/windows, white, 24,000 miles.
93 L NISSAN SERENA 2.0SGX, mpv, 6 seater, aircon, c/locking, e/windows.
93 L NISSAN SERENA 1.6 LX, mpv, 8 seater, p/steering, blue.

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92 J GRANADA SCORPIO 24v,4dr,new model,nouveau red,auto,pas,abs,aircon,cd.
93 K GRANADA SCORPIO 2.0i, auto, pas, leather, aircon, cruise, abs, cd, java blue.
93 K TOYOTA PREVIA GLi,auto,7 seater, silver.
93 K FORD SIERRA 2.0i GHIA EST auto, pas, abs, c/sunroof, e/windows, rds, black.
93 L HONDA ACCORD AERODECK 2.2 aircon, pas, ex demo, gold.
93 L NISSAN 100NX t/bar, coupe, 1.6i, ex demo, red.
93 L TOYOTA CAMRY 2.2 GLi auto, est, abs, pas, ex demo, 7 seater met blue.

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93 K/L NISSAN MICRA,1.3 SLX, new shape, 5 dr, e/windows, c/locking, s/roof.
93 K NISSAN MICRA LX, 1.0, 5dr, s/roof, r/cass, choice of 3.
93 L NISSAN MICRA 1.3 SUPER S, alloys, s/roof, r/cass.

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93 K RENAULT CLIO 1.4 RN,5 dr, auto, pas, r/cass, s/roof, white.
90 H RENAULT 21 GTS, 5dr, h/back, s/roof, r/cass, e/front windows, c/locking.
90 H RENAULT 19 GTS, 5dr, auto, e/s/roof, r/cass, misty blue.
89 G RENAULT 5 GT, turbo, c/locking, alloys, r/cass, s/roof, e/front windows.
93 L RENAULT 21, RT SAVANNA family estate, c/locking, pas, r/cass, tungsten.
93 K RENAULT ESPACE, RT turbo diesel, twin s/roof, r/cass, c/locking, pas.

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St. Mark's Hill, 081 390 3281

92 K PEUGEOT 405, GTX, est, c/locking, s/roof, black, 22000 miles.
93 K PEUGEOT 405 2.0, GRi, s/roof, rcl, 11000 miles.
93 K 405 GLDT,est,steel grey,e/windows,6000 miles.
92 K 605 SLi, auto, aztek gold, sr, 18000 miles.
92 K SUZUKI VITARA JLX, hard & soft top, white, 11000 miles.
93 K TOYOTA PREVIA auto, twin s/roof, 8 seater, 22000 miles, rich met red.
92 K PEUGEOT 405 GTDT, c/locking, s/roof, met grey, 15000 miles.
92 K PEUGEOT 405 1.6 GL, p/steering, e/windows, regency red, 13000 miles.

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MARC HILL/APEX

Alice Thomson with the 1971 Porsche 911, the car she fell in love with four years ago. Driving the Porsche, she says, is a serious business: no time for chattering at the wheel

Classic gift seals love affair

Having a licence is one thing, really being able to drive is another.

Her boyfriend's Porsche taught **Alice Thomson** the difference

It was years before I really learnt how to drive. The first time I tried to take my test the car had been put into lock, where it stayed. The second time, I realised I needed glasses, and the third time I got lost on a magic roundabout in Swindon.

Then someone lent me a car to drive across America. I bought a licence in New Mexico for $20 and with a girlfriend, chattered away across the States balancing muffins and frozen yoghurt on the dashboard and sleeping in the back. The brake fluid evaporated going down a steep hill in Washington DC, and, in the manner of *Thelma and Louise*, we had to beg passing lorry drivers to exchange the wheels. I loved it but I never learnt to drive and the car only just limped home.

In Britain, I traded my licence for an international one and only took my test three years later when I could just about manage a five-point turn. The examiner thought I was competent, but none of my friends agreed. So I used to drive alone in my Fiat Uno, brushing my hair, smoking, drinking diet cola, changing radio stations.

Now I have been converted. I have become a Porschista. Age cannot wither the car, she corners like she is on rails, has plenty of low down torque and will do 90mph in third gear — these are the sort of comments that come naturally to me now.

It began four years ago one Saturday, when I was dragged by a boyfriend to look at cars. We found the Porsche 911 in a garage in north London. The salesman swore she had had only one very fat middle-aged owner. He was definitely fat: the front seat had almost buckled. They told us that the Porsche 911 was the classic sports car, with its rear engine and familiar outline, and at 19 years old this would be an investment. But the only reason we bought her was because you can see her origins in the reassuring Beetle.

My boyfriend, who paid the £6,850, was convinced I would never want to drive her. The engine did not need renovating but he had to revamp the suspension and rewire the crumbling electrics. The electric windows, the earliest in production, were lethal. They shot up fast enough to decapitate unwary passengers. It took weeks of coaxing before I wheedled my way behind the wheel.

At last, I learnt how to drive. The Porsche is a supremely arrogant car, the rear engine has a real sting in the tail and if you do not corner properly you are likely to fly in one direction while the back veers off in another. I quickly learnt how to accelerate into corners and pick the racing line.

Within weeks, I was so addicted that I took her to the Scottish highlands, and spent hours rushing through the gears for the successive crescendos of noise. My green credentials were lost in a blur of dials.

When my new friend, the Porsche garage owner, said: "It is the car for the mentally, if not necessarily physically, mature," I agreed wholeheartedly. I no longer joked about being a bad driver and I never chattered at the steering wheel.

The Porsche was born at the Frankfurt Motor Show in 1963 — the year of the Profumo scandal, President Kennedy's assassination and Beatlemania. John Lennon had a yellow one, Martina Navratilova has acquired half a dozen, and James Dean had his neck broken by one. Ten years ago, chirpy drivers of second-hand Ford Escorts used to claim that their other car was one.

The Eighties was Porsche's decade. Those were the golden days, when a lawnmower mechanic from Hemel Hempstead named his daughter Porsche Carrera: when a dealer gave a customer a free 928 model (current price £63,363) rather than sell him a turbo special because the latter was fetching such a premium.

When the yuppies died, the Porsche was nearly interred with them, accused of being greedy, aggressive and too expensive. In 1992 Porsche sold only 1,000 cars in Britain. Now sales are up 47 per cent, the age profile has changed from mid-thirties to late forties and one in five drivers is female.

The Porsche has never been a prima donna, she is a driver's car — strong and reliable. Indeed, nothing major has ever gone wrong with my boyfriend's car.

Traffic wardens give her the benefit of the doubt, and police officers forget about speeding tickets. Once, when I ran out of petrol outside Buckingham palace at 2.00am, (having momentarily gone back to my old vices), the Royal Protection Squad gave me coffee and tanked her up.

There are just a few drawbacks. She guzzles money in the most unladylike fashion. On a temperamental day, she will do nine miles to the gallon but occasionally obliges with 19. And insurance costs are mind-boggling. The cheapest comprehensive package is £1,500 a year.

In the end, just when I had forgotten she was not mine, she had to be retired to the country. I was devastated, even though I could see her occasionally and drive her on classic insurance for £98 with a limit of 1,500 miles a year. Several people offered more than £12,000 for her.

I refused to have another car. I loathed any usurper. I was forced into glaring like Mrs Danvers in *Rebecca*. So I rode a bicycle. We went to test drive the new Porsche 911, for a laugh, but it was not the same. It was too easy. I could go back to painting my nails and driving with one hand.

Then my boyfriend and I became engaged and my wedding present is the Porsche. Happy? I am ecstatic. All we need now is a flat with a garage and a wedding list at a car insurance company.

USED CAR BRIEF

Ford Fiesta

A Top-Ten seller since its 1976 launch and in the Top Three since 1984, the Fiesta is one of Britain's most popular cars.

Thanks to simple mechanics, low running costs and reasonable second-hand values, the Fiesta has proved a repeated sales winner.

Revamped in 1989, when Fiesta got three and five-door hatchback versions plus a range of petrol engines from 1.0 litre to 1.6, as well as the 1.8 litre diesel. Huge sales now mean there are loads to be had used.

Ford has just launched its Fiesta for 1994, which means that more used Fiestas will come on to the second-hand market as owners trade.

● **Good news:** Spacious and roomy cabin will take four adults, with surprisingly good headroom. Good luggage space thanks to deep boot with flat floor. Cars are well-built and a huge variety of models is readily available.

● **Bad news:** Lacklustre, total street-cred bypass, but post-1989 cars are easier on the eye. Despite revamps, lacks sophistication. Steering can be heavy, as can clutch.

● **Look for:** Clean interior and rust-free body, especially as sloping nose is prone to stone-chipping; 60/40 split rear seat for greater load-carrying versatility. Go for highest equipment level available and bid low.

● **Best models:** 1.8LD diesel offers excellent economy and good resale values, while 1.4 litre petrol has good economy matched to reasonable performance. CVT automatic transmission can be jerky, so insist on a test drive.

● **Avoid:** High-performance XR cars, loved by thieves and loathed by insurance companies. Such cars lose money fast.

● **Insurance groups:** From a low of five to an expensive 15 for RS Turbo. The following insurance quotes are for a 55-year-old stockbroker living in Winchester, and for a 22-year-old actor with one speeding conviction, in Brixton. Fully comprehensive cover: 55-year old will pay £197; the 22-year-old £615. These quotes are the same for men and women.

● **Safety rating:** Average, according to Department of Transport figures.

● **Price range:** For 1.8 litre diesel expect to pay around £3,000 (1989 F-reg) to £7,000 (L-reg 1993). For 1.4LX expect to pay between £3,600 (1989 F) to £5,500 (1992 K reg).

● **Price of replacement parts:** (for 1991, 1.3LX, inc. VAT):

Clutch assembly	£78.10
Exhaust	£92.00
Rear shock absorber	£56.05
Front brake pads	£37.10
Alternator	£81.87
Starter motor	£93.53
Tyre	£25-£40

● **Overall:** No-nonsense motoring at a no-nonsense price. Ford's network of 1,000 dealers means help is always near. Ford Direct used-car scheme offers guaranteed year-old cars with 30-day return and exchange. Expect a price premium for peace of mind.

VAUGHAN FREEMAN



The Ford Fiesta is a no-nonsense buy: a 1990 LX model

DRIVEN MAD

Volvo Estate

An infuriating habit of cutting out on cold mornings leaves Muriel Freeman cursing her ten-year-old Volvo estate. She says: "It's that business of coming up to junctions; all the power goes, including the power-assisted brakes and steering, so I am left grabbing for the handbrake." The Y-reg Volvo is family transport for Emily, five, and Ben, three.

"The other thing that gets me", says Mrs Freeman, of Brighton, East Sussex, "is the tail-gate. You've got this great, long car which you try to park so the nose doesn't stick out. Then when you return with the shopping, you can't get the back open because it's against a wall or somebody has parked behind you."

She is, though, loyal to the car, bought second-hand two years ago for £2,800: "It is good for us and has never really broken down."

V.F.

Defying death in the Ford Mondeo

On a wet day at Brands Hatch, **Kevin Eason** was taken for the most terrifying ride of his life

Hurtling into a 90-degree bend at 125mph is not the moment for second thoughts. It had all seemed such a good idea: plucky man from *The Times* goes where no other motoring journalist has gone, and lives to tell the tale. But with this bend coming towards me, maybe I should have nominated someone else for the job.

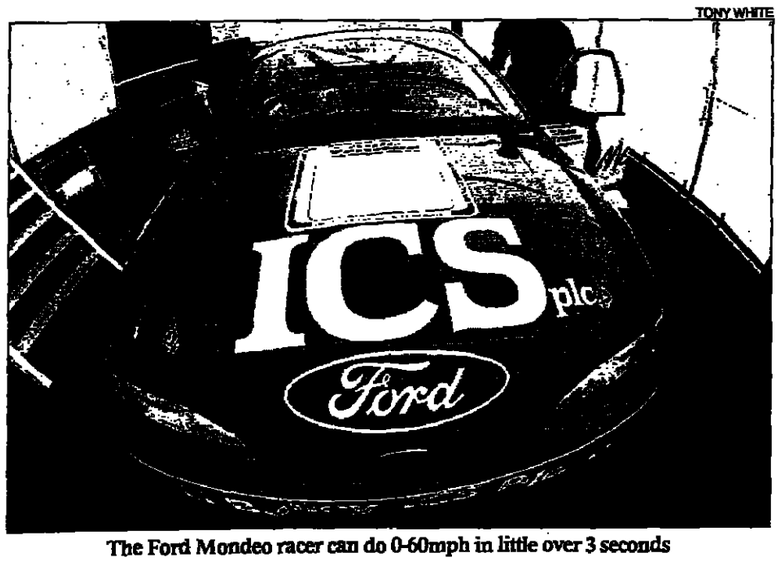
The plan was to test the Ford Mondeo racer, so spectacularly crashed by Nigel Mansell last October. I wanted to find out first-hand why the world Formula One and current Indycar champion should have had his biggest shunt in a saloon similar to 120,000 driven by motorists in the UK.

The phone call to Andy Rouse Engineering, which builds the race cars for Ford, should have prepared me for what was to come. The first question: did I have a race driver's licence? Answer: no, owing to early experiences driving cars barely able to reach the speed limit never mind break it, and a medical condition — cowardice.

Any racing experience at all? Well, I once beat everyone to the head of a queue for FA Cup sixth-round tickets. Did I have fireproof overalls and a crash helmet? Sorry, no to the first . . . but a triumphant yes to the helmet (motorcycle crash hat about to be pressed into service).

It was a dark, dank February day and Brands Hatch was soaked. This was not a day for the enthusiastic amateur to play with a car which costs about £250,000. These racers may look like Ford Mondeos but they travel like jet fighters, winning three British Touring Cars Championship races last year and narrowly missing out when Mansell crashed.

The secret of the success of the championship is that fans can recognise their own car on the track. Formula One is just *Top Gun* to the average motorist — a strange, high-tech enthusiasm for the favoured few. But spectators at Touring Cars events see something close to their favourite saloons.



TONY WHITE

The Ford Mondeo racer can do 0-60mph in little over 3 seconds

The Rouse-engineered Mondeos use the body shell and platform from the road-going £18,000 Mondeo Ghia. But there all similarities end; these cars are stripped for action and weigh half as much at just over 2,000lb (950kg).

The car that was to take me around Brands Hatch sat squat on fat Michelin tyres that cost around £300 each. The brake discs, visible behind the 18-inch alloy wheels, were huge: 14-inch diameter on the front and 12-inch on the back, compared with just ten inches front and rear in the conventional car.

Everything under the bonnet is different, from the specially designed suspension system to the stainless steel exhaust, which costs about £1,500. In fact, it is hard to spot the relationship between a road-going Mondeo and its racing sister. However, Rouse says that technical developments achieved by his team spin off into Ford's factories: for example, finding new ways of weight-saving — vital if road cars are to economise on fuel and improve performance. The battery in the racer weighs just half of that in the road car, yet still only costs about £60, close to the £42 plus VAT for the standard equipment. That is the sort of improvement Ford could adopt in its road-going cars.

The four-cylinder Mondeo engine is abandoned for V6 power packs originally designed by Mazda and used in Ford's Probe coupé, which comes to the UK from the United States this spring.

Even in its hottest form, the Probe V6 offers about 165 brake horse power but the Rouse team's "tweaking" gives the Mondeo a mighty 290bhp. That gets the racer up to 60mph in a little over three seconds — a third of the time for the road saloon.

The racer looked half-finished, so bare was the interior. Apart from the tiny driver's seat, a dashboard with two switches, rev counter and digital display giving oil and temperature readouts, there was just Andy Rouse and me . . . and that V6, which screamed into life.

The turn out of the paddock and onto the entrance road was quicker than most of my motorway outings — but the real ride was still to come.

Andy Rouse, one of Britain's most experienced drivers and four times Touring Cars champion, told me the object was not just speed; on Brands Hatch's famous Brabham Straight, his Mondeo was peaking at around 125mph — not far off the conventional Mondeo's maximum.

The first lap didn't seem so bad, until I realised Rouse was just warming up. Each time we hit the straight, the Mondeo streaked on towards Paddock Hill Bend. And each time it seemed there couldn't possibly be enough time to brake and get round the 90-degree turn.

I kept telling myself that even if it all went wrong, we could get out alive. Nigel Mansell did. He survived the crash when his Mondeo ploughed into a bridge because he was protected by a steel cage built into the cabin. I need not have worried, I was in good hands, and we completed the run in one piece.

Rouse's racers might look like the mild-mannered Mondeos on Britain's roads — but they are wild beasts best left to the experts.

● *The first British Touring Cars Championship race is on April 4 at Thruxton, Hampshire.*

THE TIMES
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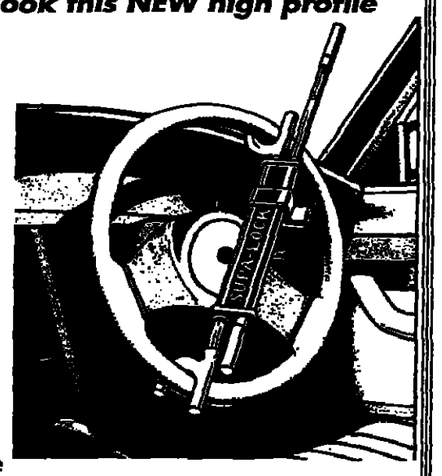
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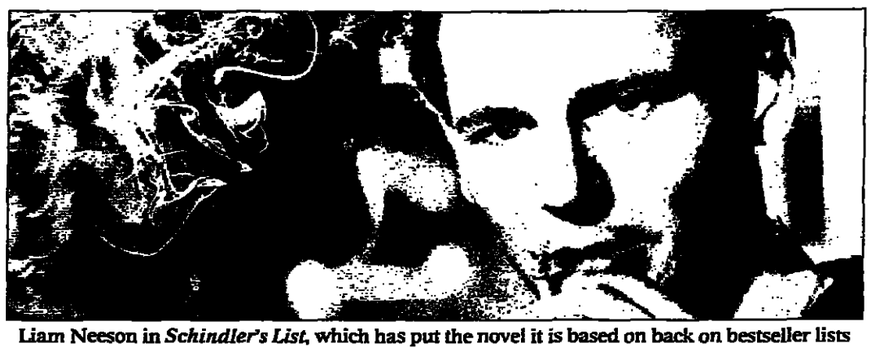
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How Spielberg and the BBC sell books

Giles Gordon introduces a list, launched today by *The Times* and Dillons, to show what the nation really buys



Liam Neeson in *Schindler's List*, which has put the novel it is based on back on bestseller lists

Bestseller lists came into being because of the general feeling that the books reviewed in the serious national press are not those most people read. As a generalisation, there is some truth in this. On the other hand, it would be going too far to assert that the titles that are reviewed are the *crème de la crème* and those on bestseller lists the schlock.

The difficulty with bestseller lists, in whichever publication they appear, is that they are compiled from, relatively speaking, surprisingly small samples of books bought the previous week. There are about 3,000 bookshops in the British Isles, and perhaps 1,000 new titles published on average each *week*. Undoubtedly, busy readers need guidance on what to buy.

Publishing has become big business, but the unit costs of books are low, although that is not necessarily what book lovers believe when they are about to buy. On the other hand, if they want a book, they will shell out £25 for *The Downing Street Years* or £20 for Alan Clark's *Diaries* and Vikram Seth's *A Suitable Boy*, which is published in paperback this week (see opposite page). Most hardback novels on the bestseller lists sell at about £15.

In the United States, film companies which had acquired movie rights to books would, on publication day, despatch employees all around America armed with dollar bills to buy up copies to ensure that the books reached the top of the bestseller lists. Thus the public would, subliminally or otherwise, absorb the idea that when the films hit their screens, they were the movies to see.

In the UK, before bestsellers lists became as "scientific" as they are today, those compiling the lists would telephone a few bookshops and enquire what was selling. Some booksellers were known to look at the piles of what was not selling and cite those titles in the hope that appearance on the lists would encourage people to come in and buy.

Our bestseller list, which appears today for the first time, is as accurate as any. It is based on weekly sales at Dillons. The figures are taken on electronic point-of-sale tills at 40 of the chain's general bookstores around the British Isles. It does not include sales from the academic shops, nor does it include regular sellers such as the *Highway Code*, dictionaries and atlases.

How many books have to be sold to achieve the bestseller list? Dillons, according to Julian Rivers, the marketing director, sold 10,000-15,000 copies of *The Downing Street Years* in the week of publication. Appearing at the lower end of the top ten titles in some weeks may mean sales of hundreds rather than thousands.

The most successful paperbacks, *Schindler's List* for instance, will sell 8,000-10,000 a week at Dillons: those at the bottom end perhaps 3,000.

The stimulus for the sale of paperbacks is unlikely to be "literary". *Schindler's List* and *Middlemarch* are where they are because of film and television. (And Adrian Mole, when it is on the bestseller lists, which it often is, is there because of radio: there is a heart-warming correlation between those who listen to radio and those who buy books.) It is tempting to speculate how many of those who buy Thomas Keneally's and George Eliot's novels will read every word.

Even the current top-selling children's books (including *Free Willy*, *Madame Doubtfire* and *Animals of Farthing Wood*) are bought in the quantities they are thanks to film and television. The extent to which the worlds of visual images and electronic media feed off books is rarely acknowledged.

Julian Rivers readily accepts that *The Times* Dillons bestseller list is an "average of averages". It is unlikely, for instance, that the top seller in the Republic of Ireland, which would probably be an Irish title, would top the collaborative figures. Similarly, a new history of Oxford might be the biggest seller in Oxford but not appear on the national lists.

If nothing else, and without going into pedantic detail about the scientific accuracy of bestseller lists, they do give some idea of what the country as a whole is reading as opposed to what the chattering classes are pontificating about.

They also indicate, more usually in the second half of the top 20 titles, the books people continue to buy: *Wild Swans* seems unstoppable, and *Some Other Rainbow* may notch up a year on the lists. *A Brief History of Time* is approaching its fifth year.

Of course, if you despise the whole idea of bestseller lists and decide not to buy a book because everyone else seems to be reading it, that is entirely up to you.

Motoring with Middlemarch

Russell Twisk reports on Penguin's performance in the new literary market of audiobooks

Twenty-five years ago Richard Hoggart predicted that the dustbins of Birmingham would soon be full of unread copies of *The Forsyte Saga* after the famous 26-part black and white BBC2 series sent Galsworthy to the top of the best-seller lists. Could the same fate be in store for *Middlemarch*?

Since the television adaptation began paperback sales have reached 15,000 copies a week, putting it at the top of the charts. Penguin have cleverly hedged their bets on George Eliot because as well as the paperback they have launched an audiobook, so if you shy away from the 800-plus pages, you can have about a quarter of that length read to you over six hours.

Sensitively abridged, it presents a quite different cut from the television adaptation. Some gaps, like Bulstrode's seedy role in Ladislaw's background, are filled in and the finale does not flash by at such a reckless gallop. The reader, Harriet Walter, makes a convincing, saintly Dorothea, but she is far less at home in giving voice to the men in the story. The precise, dryly prunish Mr Casaubon is made to sound like our own dear Queen as impersonated by Prunella Scales, and Sir James Chettam is given a gruffness which sounds as though he is suffering from a constant throat irritation. How I yearned for him to clear his craw.

Those still smouldering from the brilliant TV adaptation will find this version a disappointment, but Ms Walter improves her technique as the story goes on so that by the time she gets to the line about Dorothea being the sort of person "who lived faithfully a hidden life and rests in unvisited tombs" she is in command.

This is a new venture for Penguin, who launched their talking books department in November last year and now issue three or four new titles every month. Jan Paterson, their enthusiastic young publishing manager, is naturally gung-ho about future prospects. He's rather dismissive about his main rival, the BBC, who with their Radio Collection — launched six years ago — are the clear market leaders. "The BBC's domination is one of the problems," says Mr Paterson. "It's so conservative, with *Round the Horne* and *Dad's Army* topping their charts. They have given the whole market a staid feel, all based on nostalgia. You get the impression that listening to audiobooks is something sedate to do when you are old, but it's not."

The BBC, of course, reject this adverse assessment, pointing out that they have about 350 titles in their catalogue, ranging from Sue Townsend and Peter Tinniswood to P.G. Wodehouse and Alan Bennett, as well as children's titles including the delightful *Just William* by Richmal Crompton. But it is true that nostalgia dominates. The BBC released their own *Middlemarch* last month as part of a classic collection which includes Austen, Trollope, Dickens, Joyce, Hardy and Bronte. They established the market — happily many more publishers are beginning to exploit it more adventurously. This can only benefit the growing band of listeners.

Penguin are leading the way in exploiting film tie-ins, recently with *The Age of Innocence* read by American actor Kerry Shale. The two tapes play for two hours and I reckon that each side takes up about 75 pages of the book. Edith Wharton's study of class and manners in New York drawing rooms in the 1870s is a surprise, for Americans will have us believe that they don't have class distinction, simply the ranking of success and money. Among New York's top society, the ritual was as precise and inflexible as anything on offer in London.

Miss Wharton's book builds the unbending picture from the detail outwards, but condensation shaves the peripheral detail and whips the story along at a cracking pace which robs the story of its intensity.

Mr Shale's soft, expressive American accent easily handles the various voices, particularly the free-spirited Countess Ellen Olenska. He errs only when it comes to the improbable character of the Duke of St Austrey, who is supposed to be a huntin', shootin' and womanizin' Englishman. Perhaps no one could make such a character credible — or could they?

Spoken word tapes are here to stay. In-car entertainment is the immediate growth market, but personally I find them invaluable on long air journeys — such a refreshing change from those out-of-focus car chases which seem to feature in all in-flight films. Time really does fly by, and naturally the pictures are much better.

■ MIDDLEMARCH
By George Eliot
(4 tapes, £9.99)

■ THE AGE OF INNOCENCE
By Edith Wharton
(2 tapes, £7.99)
Both Penguin Audiobooks



● *Audiobooks can be bought from booksellers and record stores. Penguin Audiobooks can be obtained direct by ringing 081-899 4036 in office hours and asking for Penguin Direct.*



Michelle Pfeiffer and Daniel Day-Lewis in the film *The Age of Innocence*: now you can hear an audio-book version

Wonder of a baby's brain

Is natural selection the clue to how human minds work?

■ BRIGHT AIR, BRILLIANT FIRE
By Gerald Edelman
Penguin, £7.99

"DON'T think of an elephant" orders Gerald Edelman at the beginning of this brilliant but exasperating book (subtitled "On the matter of the mind"). Of course you did, and so did he, but where was the elephant you had to think of in order not to think of it? In the mind.

Where *that* is has long been in contention, although modern thinking has it that the mind is simply a result of complexity. As brains evolved and grew more elaborate, there came a point when they possessed consciousness and became aware of their own functioning. That point largely distinguishes human animals from the rest, for while other animals may be conscious, we — and perhaps the chimpanzee — are the only ones to be self-conscious.

EDELMAN's aim is to explain a new theory of the mind and brain which he has developed. His view is that the richness of the brain, and its billions of interconnections, demands a mechanism capable of generating complexity. The best on offer is Darwin's. If evolution by natural selection is capable of explaining the astounding variety of nature, then it is also capable of generating the complex linkages of the neurons that lie between our ears.

In Edelman's view, selection is a more powerful system for generating complexity than instruction. After 30 years of trying to instruct computers to behave intelligently, only modest success can be claimed. The trouble is that any program capable of instilling sense into a computer would consist of billions of lines of code.

Better, then, to try to mimic the way a human baby acquires its ideas about the world. This, in Edelman's neural Darwinism, is by a process in which patterns of brain connection are selected and reinforced when they lead to rewards. The baby grasping for a rattle does so randomly at first; but success strengthens the brain patterns that made it possible.

All this was admirably explained in a recent *Horizon* programme on BBC2. Edelman's account is, alas, much harder to follow but keep trying: the intellectual effort is worthwhile.

NIGEL HAWKES

THE TIMES / DILLONS BESTSELLERS

Nicholson Baker's *The Fermata* makes its first appearance this week in The Times/Dillons new bestseller list, based on sales electronically recorded at the tills of 40 Dillons bookshops in Britain's major cities. It appears at number 3, with Edwina Currie's *A Parliamentary Affair* slipping from third position two weeks ago to number ten last week.

Fay Weldon's *Affliction* has slipped from the top ten but both Michael Crichton's *Disclosure* and Robert Bauval's *The Orion Mystery* have improved their positions.

Note the success of Thomas Keneally, George Eliot, John Grisham, Gerry Conlon, Anne Fine and Kazuo Ishiguro (not on the list but making the 19th spot for paperbacks) as demonstrations of the power of film and television to sell books. A dramatisation of Joanna Trollope's *The Rector's Wife* started on television this week and she is certain to improve on her present position at Number 12. Colin Dann has two titles in the children's top five — with another two, *Deer in Danger* and *Animals of Farthing Wood Sticker Book* in the top ten.



George Eliot: selling well in paperback



Esther Freud, at No 7 with Peerless Flats

HARDBACK

Week ending February 18 1994

1	IMAGINATIVE EXPERIENCE **Mary Wesley** *(Bantam)*	£14.99
2	AN BRAVO TWO ZERO **Andy McNab** *(Bantam)*	£14.99
3	THE FERMATA **Nicholson Baker** *(Chatto & Windus)*	£14.99
4	THE ORION MYSTERY **Robert Bauval** *(Heinemann)*	£16.99
5	DISCLOSURE **Michael Crichton** *(Century)*	£14.99
6	PADDY CLARKE HA HA HA **Roddy Doyle** *(Secker, W'burg)*	£12.99
7	GREAT RAILWAY JOURNEYS **Clive Anderson et al** *(BBC)*	£18.99
8	SOME OTHER RAINBOW **McCarthy/ Morrell** *(Bantam)*	£14.99
9	DOWNING STREET YEARS **Lady Thatcher** *(HarperCollins)*	£25.00
10	A PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIR **Edwina Currie** *(Hodder & Stoughton)*	£15.99

PAPERBACK

1	SCHINDLER'S LIST **Thomas Keneally** *(Sceptre)*	£5.99
2	MIDDLEMARCH **George Eliot** *(Penguin)*	£3.99
3	WILD SWANS **Jung Chang** *(Flamingo)*	£7.99
4	PELICAN BRIEF **John Grisham** *(Arrow)*	£4.99
5	PROVED INNOCENT **Gerry Conlon** *(Penguin)*	£5.99
6	THEORY OF WAR **Joan Brady** *(Abacus)*	£6.99
7	PEERLESS FLATS **Esther Freud** *(Penguin)*	£4.99
8	THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY **Robert James Waller** *(Mandarin)*	£3.99
9	MISSING JOSEPH **Elizabeth George** *(Bantam)*	£4.99
10	AGE OF INNOCENCE **Edith Wharton** *(Penguin)*	£5.99

CHILDREN

1	FREE WILLY **Nigel Robinson** *(Puffin)*	£3.25
2	MADAME DOUBTFIRE **Anne Fine** *(Puffin)*	£3.99
3	ANIMALS OF FARTHING WOOD (THE STORY CONTINUED) **Colin Dann** *(Red Fox)*	£2.99
4	POINT HORROR: BABYSITTER III **R.L. Stine** *(Hippo)*	£2.99
5	FOX'S FOE **Colin Dann** *(Red Fox)*	£3.99

ANY BOOK ON THIS LIST CAN BE ORDERED FROM: DILLONS BOOKLINE (071 434 3000 Direct to you)

No curtseys for Coetzee

What the critics said: **Derwent May's** bookbuyers' guide

Pleasure ratings are awarded to a maximum of five. Column centimetres indicate the length of reviews to date in national newspapers.

5/5 **No laughs for Dostoevsky:** The austere South African novelist J.M. Coetzee won the Booker Prize for his *Life & Times of Michael K* in 1983. His new novel, *The Master of Petersburg* (Secker £14.99), is a complex work and was attacked by the reviewers from different angles — but this time most of the attacks were hostile.

The hero, Fyodor, soon turns out to be old Dostoevsky himself, visiting Petersburg in 1869 and trying with much agony to find out how his rebellious stepson Pavel has died. David Hughes, in *The Mail on Sunday*, was irritated. He said "A fog keeps settling over Fyodor's brain — as it does ours." In *The Spectator* Barry Unsworth's chief worry was whether Fyodor was a convincing portrait of the real Dostoevsky, and concluded "Not quite". Nevertheless he thought this was a "brilliant depiction of a certain kind of literary sensibility". Victoria Glendinning in *The Daily Telegraph* disagreed. She found that "this fictional Dostoevsky is nowhere near as compelling as any of Dostoevsky's own tormented anti-heroes. He comes across as neurotic and unpleasant".



J.M. Coetzee

For Miss Glendinning the main interest lay in the father-son relationship ("House of the Dad", her review was called). Justin Cartwright in *The Sunday Times* said, by contrast, that the book was "a stunning account of the relation of writers to events". The young man Pavel was a revolutionary, and the novel gave Coetzee "the opportunity of musing on revolutionary idealism". For South African writers, the book "could not be more topical".

James Wood in *The Guardian* acknowledged that it was "an intense and deep book", but regretted that Coetzee "mummifies his characters in strips of ratiocination". In *The Independent*, Anthony Quinn untangled various themes in this "sombre study in moral responsibility", but found the writing "dull". Coetzee "never manages to vary its tone, which is one of louring gloom. . .One hopes he will accept that the author of *Crime and Punishment* could laugh too."
Col. cms: 216

3/5 **Yum for some:** Disagreement over *The Faber Book of Food* (edited by Colin Spencer and Clare Clifton, Faber £17.50) seemed to be on a lower level.

Did this anthology make you feel greedy or did it put you off your dinner? Val Hennessy in the *Daily Mail* thought it was "marvellous" and fell with cries of joy on its recipes for stewed rook, boiled rat and deep-fried grasshopper: "a scintillating panoply of gastronomic experience." But there were too many descriptions of slaughterhouses and starvation in it for some of the reviewers. Loyd Grossman, in *The Sunday Times*, saw in it the emergence of a new "literature of food *noir*." Oliver Pritchett in *The Sunday Telegraph* wondered if it was not all "sly vegetarian propaganda" — while Roy Hattersley in *The Mail on Sunday* said it was more "quantity than quality", and produced no temptation in him "to pick the lock on the fridge door".
Col cms: 185

BG
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Sex, sons and lovers

Polly Toynbee compares visceral with academic research as a means of revealing Nineties' sexual mores



Shere Hite's attack on traditional ideas of family values packs a punch that goes beyond dry academic research

There are things we long to know about ourselves. What do people do in bed, how often, and how typical does that make me? Are these things changing, or is human sexuality constant down the generations? The best insight into all this we now have from *The British Sex Survey*.

Then there are the other questions, deeper and harder to answer. How badly adrift are men and women's expectations of one another, and is that deepening chasm the underlying cause of divorce? How well do children really do out of traditional family life? Shere Hite's latest survey plunges in up to the elbows, and emerges with some startling observations.

But it would be hard to find two methods of social research more at odds with one another. *The British Sex Survey* is meticulous and scientifically correct — the most serious study ever done into our sexual habits.

What Shere Hite has to offer us is very different. For all her pseudo-sociological claims, her work is impressionistic and somewhat ramshackle. But she does come up with remarkable first-hand accounts that pack a punch beyond dry academic research.

The book is tendentious, with huge conclusions hanging by thin threads. Yet in there lurks much uncomfortable insight too, and it is refreshingly anti-Freudian. It is a direct hit at the heart of "family values", for she asserts that most fathers don't do families much good. Sons brought up by single mothers have more emotionally satisfactory relationships with women, she finds. Boys and girls report anger and frustration at their inadequate relationships with their fathers.

Men won't much like it, any more than they liked her shocking 1976 *Hite Report on Female Sexuality* when she exposed graphically how many women faked orgasms. It shook men's sexual pride to the core and had women weeping, confessing and then demanding better sex. Serious research later proved her right. Her study of family life may prove to be another marker in changing attitudes towards what constitutes the "good" family.

The British Sex Survey was designed to collect vital information on the likely spread of Aids. Its findings make fascinating reading. Only 1.1 per cent of men are gay, which is ten times fewer than previous estimates. Men have an average of 13.6 sexual partners in a lifetime, but that's only part of the picture; a quarter have had ten or more partners, but 20 per cent have had only one. The better off have more partners than the poor.

How much have things changed? Women now in their late fifties first had sex on average at 21, but for teenagers now it is 17. Nearly a quarter of teenagers have had sex before 16. Interestingly it was not the Pill that made the change, since the biggest drop in age of first intercourse happened in the Fifties, not the Sixties.

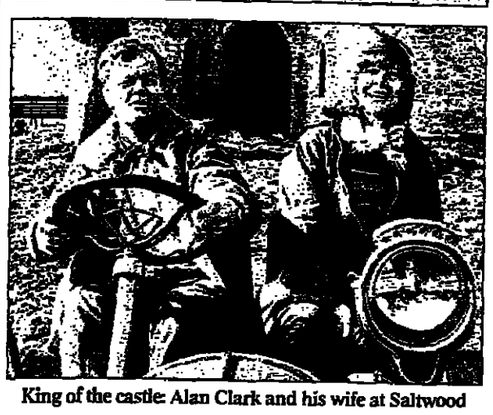
But both these books show us how fast the sands are shifting, mass divorce and family change creating the most profound social revolution in history. Each new report reminds us how much we still need to know, and raises yet more urgent questions left unanswered.

● *The author is the BBC's Social Affairs Editor.*

■ SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR IN BRITAIN: The National Survey of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles.
By Wellings, Field, Johnson, Wadsworth
Penguin, £16.99

■ THE HITE REPORT ON THE FAMILY: Growing Up Under Patriarchy
By Shere Hite
Bloomsbury, £15

NEW PAPERBACKS



King of the castle: Alan Clark and his wife at Saltwood

■ DIARIES
By Alan Clark
Phoenix, £6.99
Clark wrote these diaries — a mixture of bile, boredom, sharp observation and malicious schoolboy wit — between 1983 and 1991, when he was successively at the Employment Department, the DTI then the Defence Ministry. As an on-the-spot picture of the cynical inner workings of the Tory party they are probably unrivalled — even by the normal standards of politics Clark is unhampered by tedious notions of loyalty. As an intimate view of the inner black-and-white world of a certain type of public-school Englishman they also fascinate.

Scribbled in the backs of official cars, in embassies and hotels, in planes, and on trains between Westminster and Saltwood Castle (inherited from his father, Lord Clark, whose death is briefly recorded), they describe political life with the uncomfortable frankness later to make Clark a household name in the Matrix Churchill hearings.

Always dreaming of escape, he is held in politics by the adrenalin rush of power and his devotion to Mrs T ("the Lady"), with whom he has a naughty boy-nanny relationship. He is funniest when nastiest, but even he feels a little sheepish as he finally commits his diary to print. "My friends know me" he writes in his preface "and know that I love them and that my private explosions of irritation or bad temper are of no import." Hmm.

■ SHORT CUTS
By Raymond Carver
Harvill, £6.99
When Carver died aged 50 in 1988, America mourned the passing of its Chekhov. Propelled by tenderness and compassion, his stories of struggling salesmen, disappointed adulterers and grieving parents with their low life and small town settings, though crushingly sad, have a magical readability. Like Hemingway, whom stylistically he most resembles, Carver triumphantly gave voice to the inarticulate fears and longings of ordinary people. This collection, on which Robert Altman has based his new film, should see him reach an entirely new audience. It's just so sad that he is no longer here to enjoy this crowning of his reputation.



■ LOOKING FOR THE POSSIBLE DANCE
By A.L. Kennedy
Minerva, £5.99
A.L. Kennedy's ravishing first novel, set among the dead-end estates of 1990s Glasgow, is the story of a young woman's search for celebration in a world apparently doomed to waste, calculated violence and despair. As she helps to prepare for a ceilidh at the community centre, Margaret travels from childhood to maturity, inspired by conversations with the father who brought her up and the lover who wants to live with her. This is marvellous writing, charting both internal and external landscapes with new poetry.

■ ZENNOR IN DARKNESS
By Helen Dunmore
Penguin, £5.99
Cornwall in May 1917, and the coastline is being raked by U-boats. D.H. Lawrence and his German wife Frieda — objects of suspicion among the locals — have failed to persuade Katherine Mansfield and John Middleton Murry to stay with them at Zennor. Around these real people and events, Helen Dunmore weaves her fictional histories of a local farming family striving to keep their sons in reserved occupations, and one girl's love affair with her shell-shocked cousin. Dunmore has a sure hand with her characters. A fine first novel.

■ NO OTHER LIFE **By Brian Moore** Flamingo, £5.99
Moore once again explores the uneasy relationship between politics and religion with his familiar power and clarity. The setting, emblematic of all developing countries, is a fictional Caribbean island where the usual run of dictatorships is broken by the election of a priest and visionary to the presidency. Driven by his calls for divine justice and equality, the people take vengeance on the ruling mulatto class, who predictably fight back. In a world where poverty and repression require immediate solutions, and where belief in the after-life becomes a pathetic excuse for inaction, Moore sets faith against reason and finds it wanting.





■ MARBLE SKIN
By Slavenka Drakulic
The Women's Press, £5.99
Summoned to the house of her troubled childhood, a young sculptress waits for her mother to surface from a suicide attempt. Looking back at her awkward child self struggling to decipher the household's passions, she recalls a life of intense and confusing sensuality, complicated by repression, jealousy and incestuous longing. Some have objected to the strong subject matter, but Draculic's spare poetic style has the force of Duras.

■ BLACK WATER
By Joyce Carol Oates
Picador, £5.99
A young woman meets a senator at a party in Maine. They make love and go for a drive, but the car crashes into a river. The man escapes; the woman dies. The story is familiar, but the novel focuses on only the woman's last moments. As she is sucked under water, her thoughts are recorded in a feverish stream of consciousness. It's a rich and suggestive idea, but Oates's prose spills into melodrama.

■ XANTHIPPIC DIALOGUES
By Roger Scruton
Sinclair-Stevenson, £6.99
In these ingenious "undiscovered" texts, Socrates is blasted by his better half and Plato gets the once over from his mum. Both women deftly outwit the men and demonstrate the triumph of intuition over reason. An unlikely homage to womanhood.

● *Contributors: Hazel Leslie, Jason Cowley, Alison Burns, Alexander Ross, Lois Rathbone*

A very suitable blockbuster

Vikram Seth's India is charming and barmy — and sells like hot chapatis

■ A SUITABLE BOY
By Vikram Seth
Phoenix, £8.99

THIS BOOK is better known than many others of its precocious generation. It is, truly, Bunter-fat and bloody long. It has also, in glorious hyperbole, been described as "the most fecund as well as the most prodigious work of the latter half of this century."

Such earnest applause should, normally, drive away panic-stricken readers by the battalion. But this has not happened here, and *A Suitable Boy*, now in its second paperback version (after having sold 120,000 copies at £20 in hardback), has proved a beast of a best-seller.

Although it is not hard to understand its success, once you start to read it, there are reasons why it might not have been so: its length is daunting, its characters unglamorous, and its setting — India in the 1950s — alien to readers in contemporary England. It does not tickle Raj nostalgia and has not Rushdie's convoluted inventiveness. But its success lies in its simplicity of language and intention: it is a story cleanly told, often lovingly so. One might buy it as a birthday present for a 15-year-old, just as much as for an adult fully fledged.

Its accessible nature, perhaps, counted against it in the Booker scrum. It was not shortlisted for the prize, although many (including its endearingly ambitious author) thought that it should have been.



Seth: clean and simple style

This exclusion is, of course, thought by some to be the sign of a good book. In any case, an impression was given by Lord Gowrie that *A Suitable Boy* had made too much money for its own literary good.

In its sweep, the book reminds one of a Bombay — or "Bollywood" — cinematic blockbuster. But unlike "Bollywood" it works, genuinely, at more than one level. Of course it is soap operatic, but it is also epic. It is as much Eastenders as it is *Mahabharata*. It is this intriguing schizophrenia that readers have lapped up, and paid wads of notes for.

The length must not be allowed to frighten, as it is a benign book which wraps itself around the reader. The characters — and there are enough for the book to spawn a version of Trivial Pursuit all of its own — are put together with care and aplomb. There are no ciphers here: an A-level essay might profitably be written about virtually every one them. This is not so with Dickens, or Tolstoy, with whom Seth has — in my view unhelpfully — been compared. And although the cast is entirely Indian, no occidental reader will encounter any barrier: they are all approachable, even the mother of the girl in need of the suitable boy. She is, if anything, an Everymother, with universal concerns.

But the daughter, Lata — which is Sanskrit for "vine" — is the character with whom most readers will readily empathise. Many readers will think that she marries the most unsuitable of the boys in contention, and most women will, I think, be disappointed with the way things end.

The author would, however, regard that as proof of how well his method works: he has his readers cheering the suitors on, rather as they would their cricket team.

IT IS, inevitably, an educational book: there are few better ways of seeing India in print. In Rushdie's *Midnight's Children* one sees Rushdie's India, through Rushdie's prism. But Seth brings the place to you as it is, with its charm and barm intact. His Indian readers, furthermore, are at ease with the book, and it has not generated the sort of polemic "back home" which modern Indo-Anglian literature so often does.

That, in itself, is an achievement to be proud of.

TUNKU VARADARAJAN

BOOKS IN THE TIMES NEXT WEEK

MONDAY

Rachel Cusk reviews Jenny Diski's *Monkey's Uncle*. Plus Alison Roberts on Shere Hite's first novel

THURSDAY

Tall stories: the history of the tower block, and Antonia Fraser on 17th-century women

Magical mayhem

Rupert Goodwin on the fantasy worlds of Terry Pratchett

TERRY Pratchett is an annoying author. Once upon a time, everyone knew that dragons and wizards and mythical quests were as ineffably naff as a heavy-metal record collection and a taste for snakebite. But now, however, Pratchett's tales of magical mayhem in the cosmically improbable city of Ankh-Morpork and the surrounding Discworld sit comfortably on the shelves of dons and deacons.

The unforgivable literary sins of graphic novels and lavish maps have been blithely committed, the horrors of plastic models and a full-blown progressive rock concept album visited on us, but even Islington dinner-party guests will admit to owning a Pratchett or ten. What he does is so seductive that nobody seems to mind.

The keys to his writing are an instinct for the ridiculous. A page picked at random from any of the books can as easily contain Christopher Marlowe as quantum physics, H.G. Wells or Madonna played at full volume.

Enthusiasm, not earnestness, sugars the pill. And two or three times a year another appears, and always a bestseller.

Yet pleasant prose and dotty characters are not normally enough to absolve an author of science-fantasy obsessions. So, in many subtle ways, Pratchett melds everything with a classic liberal belief in the ascendancy of common decency. *In Small Gods*, one of the more thoughtful Discworld novels, he deftly weaves themes of forgiveness, belief and spiritual regeneration. It does not always work; the click of a word processor on auto pilot can sometimes be heard.

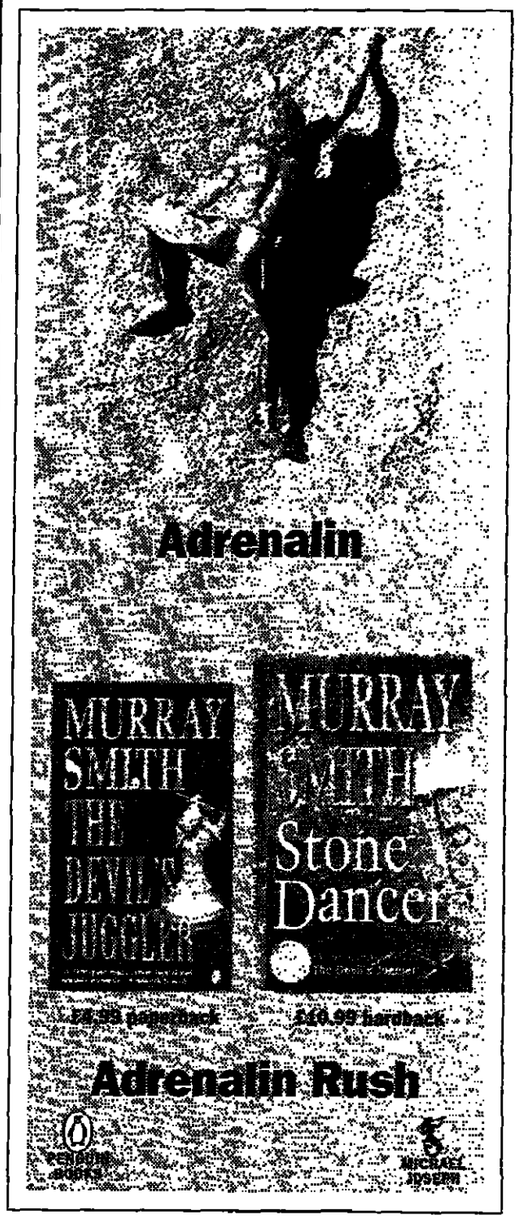
Pratchett has other worlds less extensively mined, notably the Earth of the early 1990s. Ostensibly, he writes about this for younger readers; the adult books have longer words and the juvenile fiction shorter sentences, but they are otherwise interchangable. *Johnny and the Dead*, the latest to transfer from profitable hardback to ubiquitous paperback (Corgi, £3.99), is nominally aimed at young teenageers. Johnny Maxwell is an ordinary kid with extraordinary powers of psychic observation. In the book before, *Only You Can Save Mankind*, Johnny got caught in a video game where the aliens just wanted to go home. This time, he is embroiled in conflict between the real world where cemeteries are sold for fivepence and a ghostly counterpoint where the graveyard's denizens find out and decide to do something about it.

Between the jokes and wry observations, Johnny lives a real teenage life with real problems. His separated, self-obsessive parents are more insubstantial than the ghosts; even us grown-ups can feel the pain and uncertainty.

There is petty crime and bleak inner-city tower blocks but through it all runs that wonderful fantasy and the old-fashioned message that belief in yourself and what you know to be right will always, but always, see you through.

While other writers gnaw at violence, sexuality and rootless despair, Pratchett's multi-dimensional frolics, spiced with esoterica, common sense and sympathy will never be taken entirely seriously. But then, joyous escapism has always annoyed the intellectuals.

● *Terry Pratchett's* The Colour of Magic, *read by Tony Robinson, is now available as a talking book (Corgi, £7.99)*



A hoarder on the farm is worth his weight in manure

FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY

It is a characteristic of farmers of the old school that they never throw *anything* away, and it is a habit for which I have every reason to be grateful. If, say, grandfather's old horse-plough had never been salted away at the back of the barn 50 years ago, I would not now be able to exhume it and put it back to work.

Most of the gear on this farm is closer to the First World War than the Second, and if farmers did not habitually lay down their old gear with the dedication of a connoisseur tucking away a pipe of port, there would be very little machinery for our horses to pull.

But it goes further than machinery. I regularly buy a few bags of barley from a local farmer whose smallish farm smacks more of the 1950s than the 1990s. In many ways he is a castaway on his own little island, for surrounding his land are vast fields farmed by machinery so huge that the tyres alone are frightening, and all is computer-controlled, managed, audited and regulated: there are more microchips than pitchforks on that establishment. But my barley supplier is untouched by it all, and he steadfastly perseveres with his personal low-tech economies.

For example, the bill for the barley, which he delivers by hand to save postage, comes in a brown, windowed envelope which is not sealed. I write a cheque there and then, and pop it in the same envelope, resisting the temptation to lick it and spoil it for ever; he then takes it away.

The next month he returns with the same envelope and we repeat the ritual. This has now been going on for the best part of two years. The envelope shows no signs of flagging.

I wonder if farmers are as besotted with scraps of information as they are with their artefacts, and even their envelopes? I raise the question because last week I found, on a junk stall, a copy of *Thorley's Farmer's Almanac 1934*. It is packed with information which at first glance seems worthy only of the rubbish bin but which farmers clearly used to crave.

It is a slim, pocket paperback and contains all the usual phases of the moon, sunrise and sunset times, how many pecks to the bushel and so on. Nothing wrong with that. Thorley's, who give their address as King's Cross, London, were makers of animal feed. From here they dispatched around the world potions for pigs guaranteeing "health, rest, contentment and rapid fattening" or "Grula! An exhilarating drink for horses". It seems that King's Cross always was the place to go for stimulants.



I have learnt much from this booklet, and some of it very worrying. For instance, did you know that one pair of rats can produce 130 offspring in a year, which in turn can add 5,838 to the total rat population, ending up with 253,762 by the end of the third year? Unnerved, I felt in need of a hefty dose of Thorley's Pig Powder "for buoyancy and esprit".

Glancing through the diary section, I notice that the original owner of this booklet recorded the sale of a few eggs on February 26, 1934 for seven shillings and ten pence ha'penny; and that 13 duck eggs were sat on, presumably by the duck, on April 23. After that, nothing.

Was it the income tax that got them: 4s 6d in the pound? Ramsay Macdonald, by the way, was Prime Minister and Mr W. Elliot Minister of Agriculture. All farmers should know these things, as well as the fact that Boris III was Tsar of Bulgaria.

Then the Almanac seems to lose its relevance, and we are presented with all manner of information which only a farmer who hoards tit-bits of fact like he saves old gearboxes would ever need. For example, under a heading Multum in Parvo, we read: "Dogs remain a major problem in Constantinople ..." or further on, "probably the stalest bread in existence is a loaf now on show in Chicago ..." There is also a long description of how to make a water fountain out of a five-gallon oil drum, and an interesting dissertation on why cows eat iron nails. I never knew they did.

I suppose somewhere, somehow, all this knowledge might come in handy one day. But, please, can anyone explain to me why a farmer in 1934, going about his daily tasks of vainly putting ducks on eggs, would need to know who won the Boat Race in 1887? (Cambridge by three-and-a-half lengths.) If anyone can suggest a reason, simply pop it in an envelope — a well-used brown one, please.

Marathon update: with just six weeks to go before the big race, the training gets tough for the *Times* running teams

Country-air cure for flagging feet

Chris Brasher offers a training tip for runners with 'terminal tiredness'

The worst is over — that I promise. Even if it is still raining, the evenings (and the mornings) are getting lighter and the buds are budding and last Sunday I heard a lark, its body full of song as it climbed over the Berkshire Downs.

And that is where you should be tomorrow, and for the next weekend or three. Banish dull road and get thee to the country.

That is the prescription that will cure a disease which has struck Dr Alan English from Nottingham. He is a member of *The Times* Team and he reports that each weekend he manages 22 miles on the road, but because of his NHS work he has difficulty running during the week; instead he plays squash. His problem is that, over a recent 13-mile course, "I faded quite badly at about 11 miles. Legs and breathing were fine. I simply got very tired ... How do I avoid this 'inside terminal tiredness' which seems to be a new and unwelcome development at this stage of my preparation for the London marathon. Reassurance please!"

The cure for such "terminal tiredness" (TT) is to hie yourself to Tibbie Shiels Inn or a similar hostelry. Let me explain. Some years ago, at about this time of year, I was having great trouble keeping up with a character called John Hanscomb on a Wednesday night. The course was no more than seven miles and the pace was not fast because I was in my mid-fifties and he in his mid-forties. We had run like that for Wednesday after Wednesday and it was now mighty monotonous.



Brasher: a change is as good as a rest for athletes

So, enlisting the aid of a mountain runner called Paddy, I took myself to Scotland, to the A74, near Beattock summit. And from there, with light rucksacks on our backs, we ran and we walked throughout the day, over the hills and far away until we emerged from a March blizzard at the door of Tibbie Shiels Inn on St Mary's Loch.

We had a pint and repaired to the bath with another; and then we ate and planned our route for the morrow. That day we'd covered 18 miles in eight hours and we had reckoned (when we planned the route) that tiredness would restrict us to a total of 12 miles on the next day along the new Southern Upland Way.

By lunchtime that next day we had covered 12 miles along a route which was more lowland than upland. We found another hostelry for soup and a sandwich and then set forth across Minchmuir to Galashiels — 27 miles between nine in the morning to seven in the evening with an hour and a half for lunch. Not very fast, is it? We walked up the hills, jogged along the tops, stopped often to consult the map or drink from a stream and we averaged just over three miles an hour.

On the third day we covered 25 similar lowland miles and on the fourth a mere 18 before getting a lift to Edinburgh: 88 miles in all over four days at a speed of 3.2 miles per hour, which would give a marathon time of eight hours, 11 minutes, 15 seconds. In the previous NutraSweet London Marathon only eight people were slower.

And it is not the sort of pace that would keep up with John Hanscomb who, by his 47th year, had run more than 40 marathons with remarkable consistency. Whatever the course, flat or hilly, whatever the weather, hot or cold, however his health, he ran between two hours, 50 minutes and three hours, ten minutes. Or, to put it another way, if you could keep up with John in training then you could be certain of recording a highly respectable time in the event.

But, as I have reported, I could not keep up with him over seven miles — until the Sunday after returning from the Southern Upland Way. He and I set off along the Thames towpath from Richmond to Weybridge. We ran for 17 miles and it was he who was hanging on to me almost crying for mercy and I knew that the LSD (Long Slow Distance) across Scotland had cured my problem.

I do not suppose everybody can take a four-day weekend in the next month and I do not suppose everybody has a mountain-running friend like Paddy who can shepherd him through a blizzard, but you can apply the principle. The textbooks call it LSD. I call it "enjoying myself".

You need a little help from friends or family, or even perhaps from British Rail. Plan yourself a linear route — one from A to B and not from A back to A. That is important for your mental health. Your mind must know that this is a journey like that ancient and mythical journey from Marathon to Athens.

Take plenty of clothes and a bum bag or light rucksack with supplies of food and a couple of sachets of Isostar, the sports drink that will be available to entrants during the run on April 17. And take a friend or two and you will soon banish that terminal tiredness.

PS: If you have a group of two, four or six runners of varying ability, then take one mountain bike per pair on your trip and run and ride.

While one person is running, the other is cycling ahead, and then leaving the bike, securely padlocked for the first runner to pick up while the cyclist then starts to run. Don't forget to take two keys to the lock.

● *The author is director of the London NutraSweet Marathon.*

STEVE MORTON/ALLSPORT



Drinking is essential to keep up fluid levels during this month's longer practice runs, and in the marathon itself. In the race, take care to avoid collisions at feeding stations

Brace yourself for the final stretch

Extended training sessions will condition your body for next month's great run, **Mel Batty** says

The good news is that the starting line of the NutraSweet London Marathon is just over the brow of the hill. The bad news is that this month runners have to climb to the top of the hill with the most severe training programme so far.

The March training schedule runs aim to condition your body for the 26 miles, 385 yards of London streets. The weekly long runs are the furthest so far, but every step you take brings you closer to the finish line in The Mall on Sunday, April 17.

The long run is the one session you must not miss each week. The weather may be cold, wet or windy. There may be snow on the ground. You may be tired. But you *must* complete the run. Do not worry if your runs are not getting any faster. This is normal, because you are increasing the number of training sessions. The benefits of all this exercise will be shown in the marathon itself, after you have tapered your training.

None of the long sessions is more than two hours and 40 minutes, even for the advanced runners. You will probably have to run for longer in the marathon but the tapering for the race and the atmosphere on the day will help you to complete the distance.

For those attempting a half-marathon or 10,000 metres trial this month, ease off the amount of running for the last few days. Exercise normally until Tuesday, then from Wednesday jog lightly for 20-30 minutes each day and rest the day before the event.

Now that you are running for more than two hours on long outings, you will need to take in fluid, otherwise you will become dehydrated. On short sessions, the body has sufficient reserves not to require extra liquid.

You should get used to drinking during your weekly long runs. Consume some liquid just before you start and try to plan your course so that you can stop briefly at home to have further drinks. Alternatively, run past a friend's house where water can be left. Plastic liquid containers can be bought in sports shops.

A half-marathon will give you the opportunity to practise drinking during a race. Begin drinking at the first feeding station: your body will need liquid well before you feel thirsty. Drink little but often.

Be careful as you are passing a feeding station not to trip on the drinking cups which have been thrown away, or to slip on spilt water. Also, be careful not to veer suddenly to the side of the road to get a cup or you may collide with a runner behind you. Drink either water or an energy-giving drink.

JOHN GOODBODY

● *Later this month, members of Chris Brasher's and Mel Batty's Times marathon teams will run a half-marathon in Ware, Hertfordshire, and will have their second Bupa fitness test. Eamonn Martin, last year's London Marathon winner, will also be tested by Bupa. The results will be published next month in Weekend.*

● *Bupa fitness testing offer to Times readers appears next week.*

Training schedules
Sessions for the final month of hard training:

Advanced runners:
Week one: one run of 2hr 20 min; two 60 min runs; two 50 min fartleks.
Week two: one run of 2hr 40 min; two 60 min runs; two 60 min fartleks.
Week three: as week one.
Week four: as week two.

Joggers:
Week one: one 2hr jog; two 60 min jogs; one 40 min fartlek.
Week two: one 2hr 30 min jog; two 60 min jogs; one 40 min fartlek.
Week three: as week one.
Week four: as week two.

A cold played havoc with **Christine Wheeler**'s training

Cursing under the duvet

NO MORE giggling at the back of the class. The laughter stops right here. I have been halted in my tracks by the viral equivalent of an iron bar across the knees: the common cold.

I'm not much given to pockets of illness, getting a cold roughly once every three years. The last contamination was in 1990, and it doesn't take Mystic Meg with a maths degree to work out I was well into extra time.

Such was my paranoia that, over the past few months, I had developed a sort of Howard Hughes syndrome, blanching and staggering back if anyone so much as coughed within a 100-yard radius.

As I try to keep at least one toe in the real world, a complete Hughes exclusion zone was impossible. It would have meant hunkering down in a sealed penthouse with at least six young Americans in button-down shirts strategically placed between me and the outside world — venturing out only for jogs in Hyde Park wearing a surgical mask.

Seeing this obvious gap in my perimeter fence, various so-called friends did a Colditz in reverse, sneaking in under the wire and getting close enough for some serious sabotage. Result: contamination. Misery.

Outside, it was perfect jogging weather; inside, I crawled under the duvet, surrounded by damp tissues, Lucozade and Marmite soldiers, making pathetic snuffling noises and cursing.

Mel Batty had warned us not to jog with a heavy cold. Would that I felt I had a choice, having to assume a vertical position just to breathe and sleep at the same time. Not that I got much sympathy.

Fast-forward ten days. I'm ready for action, but the weather has closed in. I have jogged in snow, with sleet stinging my face, against gale-force winds and in temperatures below zero with serious wind-chill factors — but never all at once.

Just as I decided it would be madness to go to the corner shop, let alone do circuits of the park, a finger was wagged in my face and I was specifically forbidden to go out, on pain of having my trainers confiscated. Surely this F-verb fell into disrepute when the heavy-metal crusaders clunked off to warmer climates, having padlocked their women to the medieval equivalent of the Aga. Against all my principles I stayed inside and watched the luge in Lillehammer.

> "Being ill means the whole engine is on the blink, and takes an age to de-coke and crank up again"

Two days later there was snow, but no wind. By now I had taken advice from the *Times* lunchtime A team, who recommended that I jog slowly for 20 minutes, with an option on 30 after such a long lay-off. If I felt "peculiar", then stop. I dragged a "minder" out with me, who sat on a bench whingeing about the cold, refusing to do anything constructive like build a snowman.

Mel Batty he is not: "Why did you stop over there, Chris?"

"I was blowing my nose, but I didn't see you rushing over with the magic sponges to check I hadn't come over all peculiar."

"I thought I was only activated if you actually keeled over. You didn't, I'm about to, so please can we go home now?"

Do our world record-holders have to put up with this cavalier attitude? No, but they spend their winters having barbies at Ayers Rock or picking oranges off the trees in southern California.

It's very different being generally below par from having a specific injury. When my knee went it stopped me running, but it was just one small cog declaring time out ... Being ill means the whole engine is on the blink and takes an age to de-coke and crank up again. Your brain may be ready for physical exercise but your body stubbornly stays weak and feeble. The secret is not to panic, keep your nerve and very gradually extend your runs by five minutes each session. Only in the last week of February could I be sure that if I set out to jog for an hour I would do just that. Nothing destroys confidence more than going out and failing to achieve your objective.

JUDGING by the sudden rash of joggers out on the streets, the letters of acceptance have gone out from the London marathon office.

I can spot a road runner from behind my windscreen at 500 yards. How fast are they going? How fit do they look? What are they wearing? Would I give them good style marks?

Each one is studied and commented on, often to the horror of my passengers who think I haven't seen the upcoming red light, stationary traffic, a panda car. But any woman who can window-shop from the outside lane is perfectly capable of safely giving passing runners the once-over. The most alarming are the joggers with rucksacks on their backs that obviously contain bricks rather than a packed lunch. Surely this is overdoing it a bit?

Then, what do I find on my desk when I get back to work white-faced and red-nosed? A brown envelope giving my start number for a half-marathon in March which I had no recollection of entering. There appears to be no escape.

TONY HOLLEY



Standing up to the enemy

Hares are curious creatures: they rear up on their hind legs to make sure hungry foxes can see them. Edward Ashpole finds out why

The brown hare signals to the fox: "Here I am and you can't catch me, so don't let's waste energy in a chase." The fox gets the message almost every time and goes on its way.

When a hare sees a fox in open country it stands bolt upright on its hind legs, directly facing the fox, ears erect, showing itself and its white ventral fur to the fox. The fox then knows that it has been seen, and looks for a meal elsewhere.

"This is the hare's unambiguous signal," says Dr Tony Holley, who has been studying the uneasy relationship between hares and foxes during the past ten years. The point is that the brown hare *(Lepus europaeus)* can run 50 per cent faster than a fox, and foxes know this.

For Dr Holley, who is disabled and has restricted mobility, the field work usually undertaken by naturalists studying animal behaviour is not easy. He has solved this problem by buying a house in the right place in the Somerset Levels and converting the roof space so that he can observe hares and foxes in the 17 surrounding fields with his high-power binoculars and telescope. "The roof space is my hide," he explains. "It's an excellent way to study animal behaviour."

Dr Holley is a practising solicitor with a life-long interest in animal behaviour. He studied the behaviour of gulls when he lived by the sea, but the doctorate he received from Durham University a year ago, at the age of 61, was for his research into the behaviour of hares.

"Hares can figure prominently in a fox's diet, especially young ones," he said. "To catch an adult, the fox must depend either on stealth or ambush." When a fox, using the cover of bushes or uneven ground, manages to creep so close that the distance is too short for safe signalling, the hare doesn't respond with its signal. It runs.

Dr Holley maintains that hares can always tell the difference between a fox and a dog. "Hares do not stand still in front of approaching dogs," he says. "They run when a dog approaches because most dogs can run faster than a hare." Precisely how a hare tells the difference is not known, but it can't be by scent because the distances involved are too great.

From April onwards, Dr Holley can observe the hares in daylight, but in the winter he does so at night. "I often see foxes and hares in the same field, and a fox might remain in a field for 20 minutes, particularly when it's eating earthworms (which can be a substantial part of a fox's diet), but the hares carry on feeding. When a fox comes too near, a hare will stand erect, facing the fox until it goes on its way."

As hares provide meals for foxes, we would not expect them to signal their presence unless the signal was of survival value to the hare. Naturalists have said that hares stand upright to see foxes more clearly, but Dr Holley rejects this explanation.

"The hare has already seen the fox perfectly well. Out of 32 brown hares which I saw approached by foxes across open ground, 31 adopted a bipedal stance, facing the fox directly when it was 50 metres or less away. All my observations suggest that by standing erect the brown hare is signalling to an approaching fox that it has been detected. None of the hares which I have seen stand were chased by the fox."



CHRISTOPHER NICHOLSON

Above: A female hare beats off a male, whose attentions she is not ready to accept. Left: Dr Holley in the hide at his Somerset home

It needs emphasising that hares stand upright whether in short or tall vegetation and whether in daylight, twilight, moonlight or darkness. "I suggest it is unlikely," said Dr Holley, "that a hare, facing a fox walking towards it in broad daylight or full moonlight across a mown field, stands when the fox is about 30 metres away in order to see the fox better." Hares favour certain fields night after night, even though a fox may be present. They therefore don't want to be chased away, and by signalling they can stay put and carry on feeding.

One familiar item of country lore has been demolished by Dr Holley's research. "Mad March hares are a myth," he says. "The point is that hares like to be active at night and need a total of 14 hours for their various activities. By March, the nights have become too short and they have to show themselves in daylight. That's when we first see their lively mating rituals, though they breed from January to August. And because hares are not territorial, one can often see several males leaping around one female. From April onwards this behaviour is concealed from us by the long vegetation."

March hares, then, are no more mad than the rest of us, even though they have to keep flagging down predatory foxes in order to lead an undisturbed life.

FEATHER REPORT

Sky-divers herald the start of spring

IN MARCH, the sky-divers start returning to the fields and moors — the birds that hurl themselves into the air and then dive down again with ringing and resonant cries. Being birds of the open spaces, they have no trees to sing from, so they defend their territories and attract mates with spectacular aerial displays.

The lapwings will be among the first. Many of them are still in their winter flocks, sometimes feeding by the light of the full moon in order to avoid the attentions of black-headed gulls, which try to steal their food in the daytime. Even the lapwings' plumage is adapted to this moonlit life. They have bright, silvery patches under their wings, which flash when they fly up in alarm in the night, and so alert the other members of the flock to the danger.

But now they are coming back to the ploughed fields and the edges of the moors, and the males are beginning their spring gyrations.

You hear them first, from far off — a penetrating "pee-weet, weet-weet" that has given them their other common name of peewit. Then you see the bird, twisting and tumbling in a cascade of black and silver. It almost touches the earth, then rises again and flies away. But it soon circles round and repeats the performance. As you get nearer, you can hear that after each dive it makes a strange buzzing sound with its wings to complete the display.

Snipe are also going back to boggy moorland. They use not their wings, but their tail-feathers to create a sound in their sky performances. Altogether, they seem very weird birds on their breeding grounds. They sit among the rushes, or on a fence, producing an unearthly ticking song — "ticker-ticker-ticker". Then they go up into the sky and dive down again with their outer tail-feathers spread wide. The wind rushing through these makes a fine humming or throbbing note, like some mysterious chord in a Mahler symphony.

Lapwing and snipe are both members of the order of waders, though you might not think so from the short beak of the former and the amazingly long, pencil-like beak of the latter.

A third sky-diving wader is also returning to the moors this month — the curlew. Heavy and lumbering though it may seem on the seashore in winter, it proves itself very agile in the air, when it gets back among the heather.



A soaring lapwing

It climbs up almost vertically, hangs in the air on trembling wings, and planes down again. Its curved beak is open: its melodious "coorlee" cries get faster and faster as it rises, and explode into a wild trill as it descends. Spring is back on the moors.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — look out for rooks back at the rookeries displaying and nest building. Twitchers — Red-rumped swallow, Tresco, Isles of Scilly. Pied-billed grebe, Argal Reservoir, Cornwall. Rustic bunting, Fowlmere, Cambridgeshire. Details from Birdline 0891 700222. Calls costs 36p a minute cheap rate, 45p at all other times.*

The Times with Relais & Châteaux are offering readers the chance to win a weekend away and to save money on a short break

Win a weekend in Ireland

Relais & Châteaux are offering readers the chance to win a weekend worth £1,000 in one of three luxurious hotels. Whichever hotel the winner chooses, the prize includes return flights from any UK airport; a Hertz hire car from the Irish airport; dinner, bed and breakfast plus either golf, health and fitness or fishing for two people.

Enjoy a golfing weekend at the Kildare Hotel and Country Club. The prize includes two nights' accommodation, two full breakfasts, dinner in the Byerley Turk Restuarant on Friday and the Legends Room on Saturday with golf on both days. The hotel and country club is just 17 miles from Dublin and offers golf, tennis, fishing, swimming pool, sauna and solarium.

At Sheen Falls enjoy a health and fitness weekend. The prize includes two nights' accommodation, two full breakfasts and two dinners plus one free treatment per person at the Health and Fitness Centre. The hotel is beside the Sheen River with semi-tropical gardens and woodland walks. Each room has views of the Sheen Waterfalls or the Kenmare Bay.

Alternatively enjoy some of the best private fishing in Ireland at Newport House. The prize includes two nights' accommodation, two full breakfasts, two dinners and free fly fishing for salmon on eight miles of private river and a lake. The hotel overlooks the tidal river and quay between the Achill Island and the mountains of Mayo.

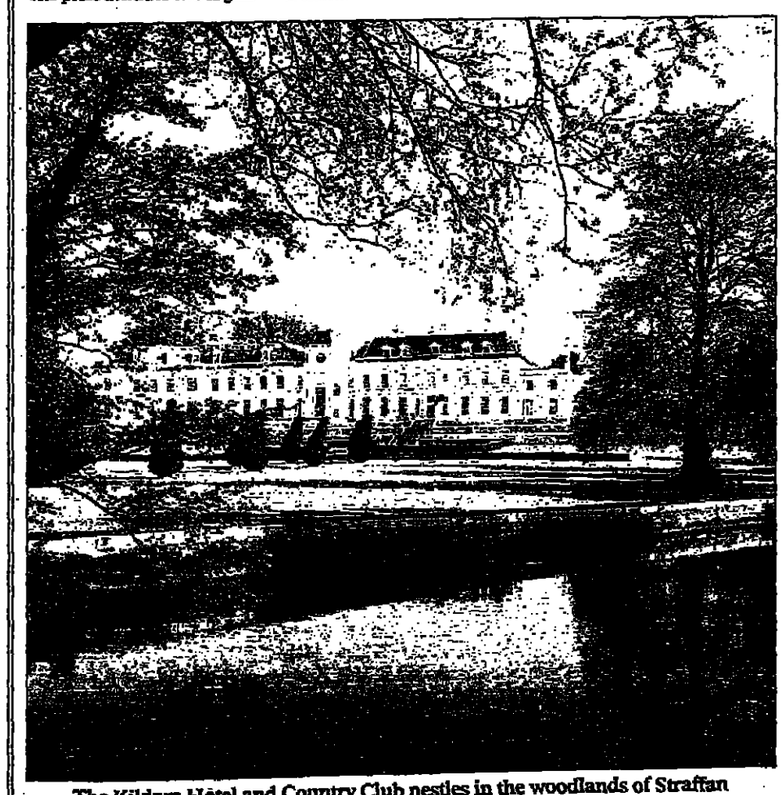
To win one of these luxury weekends simply answer the three questions printed left and telephone your answers through to our competition hotline (0891 500104) up to midnight on Friday, March 11, 1994. You will be asked to give your three answers, your name, address, daytime telephone number and the name of your preferred weekend. Winners will be selected from all correct entries received by the closing date and notified by post. Normal *Times* competition rules apply. Calls are charged at 36p a minute cheap rate, 48p a minute at all other times.

QUESTIONS

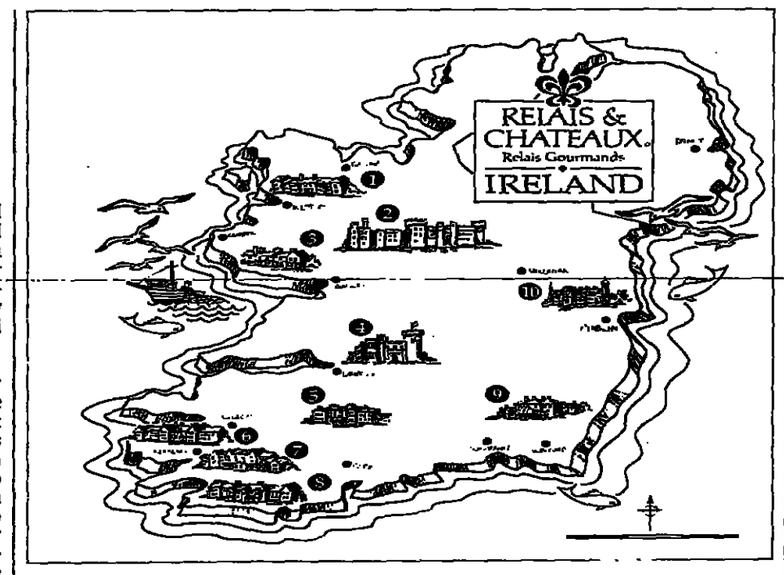
1. Name one of the Nobel Prize winners for literature who was born in Ireland.

2. Name the illicit drink distilled in Ireland.

3. Which General of the British Army and Prime Minister of Great Britain was born in Ireland?



The Kildare Hotel and Country Club nestles in the woodlands of Straffan



Save up to £400 on a short break in a luxury hotel and enjoy the magic of Ireland

1. Newport House, *Newport, Co Mayo (010 353 98 41222).* Historic house overlooking its own superb salmon river. (Green Shield)
Activities: Fishing equipment provided free for *Times* readers.
Reopens March 20.
Normal price for room from IR£93 to IR£146 (dinner IR£28). Saving up to IR£55 per person.

2. Ashford Castle, *Cong, Co Mayo (010 353 92 46003).* A turreted castle between two lakes. (Yellow Shield)
Activities: Fishing and golf.
Open all year. Normal price for room from IR£112 to IR£194 (dinner from IR£27.50 to IR£50). Saving up to IR£254 per person.

3. Cashel House Hotel, *Cashel, Connemara, Co Galway (010 353 95 31001).* A Georgian-style country house on the Atlantic shore offering good fishing and equestrian sports. (Blue Shield)
Activities: fishing, golf equipment, tennis and rowing boats always free for all guests; horse trekking — free for *Times* guests.
Open. Normal price for room from IR£92 to IR£136 (dinner from IR£24 to IR£35). Saving up to IR£90 per person.

4. Dromoland Castle, *Newmarket-On-Fergus, Co Clare (010 353 61 368144).* The ancestral home of the Royal O'Brien clan, filled with reminders of the past. (Yellow Shield)
Activities: golf and fishing; green fees (bring your own clubs) — free for *Times* guests.
Open all year. Normal price for room from IR£110 to IR£194 (dinner from IR£32 to IR£45). Saving up to IR£198 per person.

5. Longueville Country House, *Mallow, Co Cork (010 353 22 47156).* A Georgian house on the Blackwater River offering fishing free to all guests. (Green Shield)
Reopens March 11. Normal price for room from IR£110 to IR£140 (dinner from IR£25 to IR£40). Saving up to IR£70 per person.

6. Park Hotel Kenmare, *Kenmare, Co Kerry (010 353 64 41200).* A country house on the estuary near the Ring of Kerry with a Michelin star restaurant. (Yellow Shield)
Reopens April 15.
Normal price for room from IR£135 to IR£205 (dinner from IR£33 to IR£45). Saving up to IR£214 per person.

7. Sheen Falls Lodge, *Kenmare, Co Kerry (010 353 64 41600).* A country manor with a Michelin star restaurant. (Yellow Shield)
Activities: Health club free to all guests; fishing and equipment — free for *Times* guests.
Open. Normal price for room from IR£200 to IR£230 (dinner from IR£32.50 to IR£45). Saving up to IR£248 per person.

8. Ballylickey Manor House, *Ballylickey, Bantry Bay, Co Cork (010 353 27 50071).* An elegant hunting lodge built by Lord Kenmare in the 17th century set in some of the finest gardens in Ireland. (Green Shield)
Reopens March 15. Normal price for room from IR£86 to IR£160 (dinner from IR£15 to IR£30). Saving up to IR£80 per person.

9. Marlfield House, *Grey, Co Wexford (010 353 55 21124).* Former home of the Earls of Courtown built in the 19th century. (Yellow Shield)
Activities: Tennis and golf.
Open. Normal price for room from IR£120 to IR£145 (dinner from IR£28.50 to IR£30.50). Saving up to IR£150 per person.

10. Kildare Hotel and Country Club, *Straffan, Co Kildare (010 353 1 6273333).* Offers guests comfort and service with a Michelin star restaurant. (Gold Shield)
Activities: golf green fees — free for *Times* guests; and outstanding healthclub.
Open all year. Normal price for room from IR£245 to IR£275 (dinner from IR£33 to IR£40). Saving up to IR£272 per person.

Be privileged: spend a weekend fishing, playing golf, or just being pampered

Enjoy a weekend in Ireland. A short break can be as refreshing as a two-week holiday. Especially when you spend your time at one of the prestigious Relais & Châteaux recommended country homes and castles in Ireland. A few days away will leave you rested, relaxed and ready to face the world again.

Today, *The Times* in association with Relais & Châteaux is offering readers a special three-night discounted package. There are ten hotels to choose from and descriptions of the hotels with the activities they offer are printed left. They range from historic houses and country estates to castles and whichever you choose will offer the best of Irish hospitality with delicious food, elegant rooms and excellent service.

The package includes three nights accommodation (mini-suite or suite accommodation available at certain properties), a full Irish breakfast each day and dinner on two evenings at the special rate of IR£220.00 (£220) per person, inclusive of taxes and service. The normal rate for three nights and two dinners at a Blue or Green Shield property starts from IR£270 per person and at a Yellow or Gold property from IR£400 per person, representing savings of up to IR£270 per person.

The Times and Relais & Châteaux have a simple aim — to recommend only the finest establishments, offering superior standards and excellence at the right price. As a guest of any of the ten Relais & Châteaux properties in Ireland you are guaranteed the finest quality and service. As a reader of *The Times* you will also be offered further privileges at some of the properties, including free golfing, fishing and riding in beautiful countryside.

The offer is available throughout March, April and May, excluding Easter weekend, and is subject to availability.

HOW TO BOOK

TO book simply telephone the hotel of your choice (the telephone numbers are listed to the left) and quote reference *"The Times* Offer".

For more information (individual brochures for hotels included in this offer) and details of how to obtain the Relais & Châteaux International Guide (with details of 410 establishments in 40 countries) please contact the London office on 071-287 0987.

For readers flying to Ireland who wish to explore the beautiful countryside *The Times* has also teamed up with Hertz, to offer a 45 per cent discount on car rental in Ireland. Hertz offer a wide range of vehicles from Ford Fiestas and Escorts to a Volvo 850, prices start from £42.75 to £168.45 per day. To obtain your discount simply cut out the voucher below and present it at Hertz in Dublin, Shannon and Cork Airport.

Hertz

45% DISCOUNT VOUCHER

This voucher entitles the bearer to 45% discount off Hertz car rental in Ireland only.

This voucher can only be redeemed at branches of Hertz in Dublin, Cork & Shannon Airport.

Offer valid from 1 March to 31 May 1994. No other discounts or offers apply.

The 45% discount does not apply to car insurance.

TO ADVERTISE CALL:
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PROPERTY

FAX:
071 782 7826
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CHELSEA & KENSINGTON

KENSINGTON SW7 Show house open 12-4 today 6th March at 6, Lechlade Garden Mews. A beautifully refurbished 4 bed, 2 bath terraced Victorian house on 2 floors with a garage. Price £349,000 F/H All turn up. Ambrose Heffernan Estate Agents 071-284 1399.

VICTORIAN mansion flat, 2 beds, 1st floor south facing £129,500. 071 351 1859.

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CITY EC2 - Milton Court Barbican, three bedrooms with private roof garden. Leasehold £122,500. Copping Joyce 071 836 2888.

CITY E1 1 bed apartment with underground parking. £78,000. 071 377 6979

COVENT GARDEN WC2. New Row 2nd fl flat. In need of modernisation. Ent hall, three rooms plus bathroom. Lease 92yrs. £107,500. Copping Joyce 071 836 2888.

COVENT GARDEN WC2. Floral Street 3rd floor, 1 bed. luxury apartment. Lift. caretaker. Leasehold. £145,000. Sweby Cowan 071 240 4334

COVENT GARDEN WC2. Mercer St. 2nd fl flat. 2 bedrooms with private balcony. Lease 118yrs. £205,250. Copping Joyce 071 836 2888.

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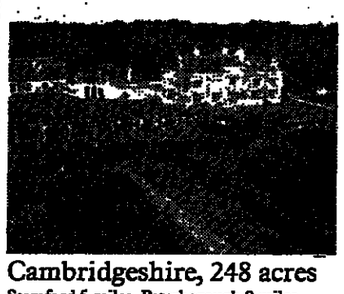
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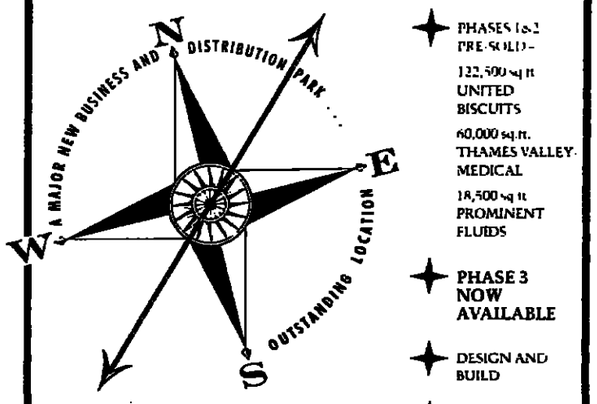
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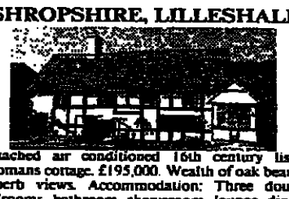
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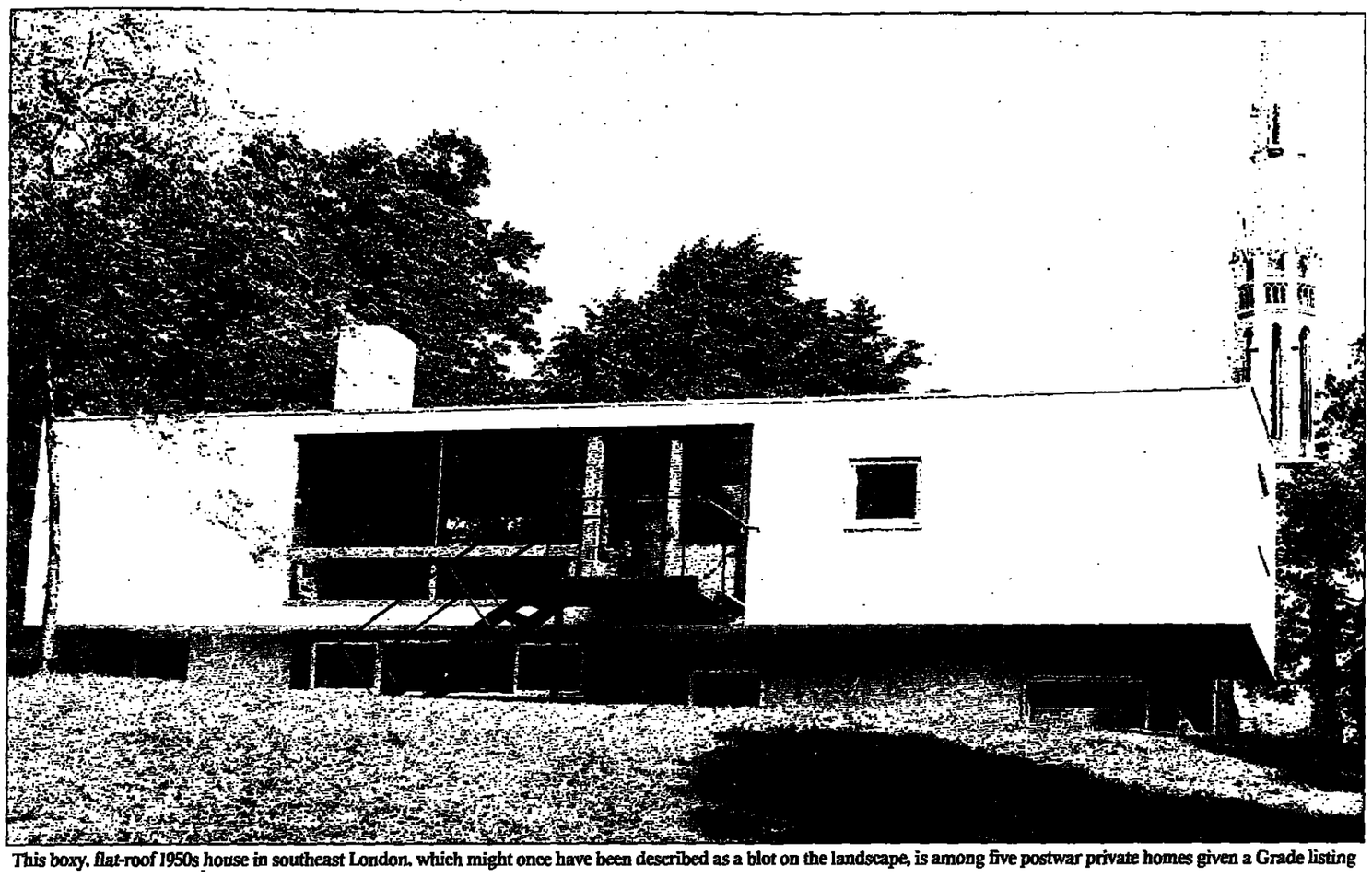
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An exhibition in London extols the virtues of listing postwar buildings, **Rachel Kelly** reports



This boxy, flat-roof 1950s house in southeast London, which might once have been described as a blot on the landscape, is among five postwar private homes given a Grade listing

Modern homes join classics

The process of listing buildings has long been thought "part of the nostalgia business", as Jennifer Page, the chief executive of English Heritage, once said. A listed home is presumed to mean a dated one: an Elizabethan manor perhaps, or a Victorian villa.

But now postwar homes can also be considered. Once listed, a house is designated of "special architectural or historic interest" and protected by law from unauthorised demolition or alteration. Modern buildings which might have been yesterday's blots on the landscape are being elevated to today's architectural pantheon.

English Heritage was set up in 1984 by Margaret Thatcher, the then Prime Minister, as the quango charged with selecting buildings for listing. In 1987 the Government agreed that buildings only 30 years old could be included. English Heritage is now bidding to encourage an "enlightened public debate" on the protection of such architecture by launching a photographic exhibition entitled "The Age of Optimism: Postwar architecture in England 1945-1970".

The exhibition details all the postwar buildings that have been listed, including five private houses. These were designated Grade II, which the Government defines as "buildings of special interest which warrant every effort being made to preserve them". Of the country's 500,000 listed buildings, (about 2 per cent of the total), most are Grade II or Grade II* — "particularly important buildings of more than special interest". Only about 6,070 are Grade I — "buildings of exceptional interest".

All the houses featured in the exhibition were built in the 1950s. A crop of 1960s buildings are expected to be designated for listing this year, as part of a more detailed survey of postwar architecture which English Heritage is undertaking.

Number 20 Blackheath Park, in southeast London (above), was built by the architect Peter Moro for himself. The brick building has a timber-clad upper storey. The main living area is on the first floor.

Alan Powers, the secretary of the 20th Century Society which campaigns to preserve modern buildings, says the house is exceptional for putting all the living accommodation on the first floor — a "first floor pavilion floating on its base".

Two houses by Raymond Erith are included in the exhibition. One, in Aubrey Walk, Kensington, west London, is a brick building fronted by a reserved street façade in brick, with a more ornamental, balconied stucco elevation on the garden side.

"It was not like anything else that had previously been done," Dr Powers says. "It was built when materials were restricted."

The five private houses chosen for listing are a hotch-potch, Dr Powers says. The junior minister charged with choosing them was Lord Caithness, who had to make his recommendations to Nicholas Ridley, then Environment Secretary. "I think Caithness picked a few as a damage-limitation exercise, as I don't think he thought Ridley was very keen on the idea of listing postwar buildings." Dr Powers says. "English Heritage is doing a much more comprehensive review of postwar buildings."

Other 1950s buildings, characterised by their flat roofs and box-shape, are likely to be included in the future. The buildings will not just be the beautiful ones, but those which illustrate planning significance, materials, and the use to which the buildings were put, says Dr Martin Cherry, head of listing at English Heritage. For example, a house might reflect ingenuity with limited resources.

"There used to be no general climate of appreciation for postwar buildings. Things have changed a lot now," Dr Powers says. "English Heritage has been much more active than we expected, and so has the Department of National Heritage. There's a lot of official weight behind postwar listing now."

Dr Cherry says: "Postwar buildings are often associated with the failures of grand ambitions, of social engineering, and a cherished past that has been swept away. It is easy to forget that the ambitions were worthwhile: to build a better world, in which people would live in clean, bright, warm homes with indoor bathrooms."

Modern architects are more ambivalent, fearing a straitjacket of bureaucratic red tape will engulf their masterpieces. Quinlan Terry, whose recent projects include the building of classic-style villas in Regent's Park, London, says: "The danger is that listing turns the whole of the environment into a museum. Personally, I would not list anything post-1850."

Conservationists counter that listing does not mean that nothing can be changed. "It means that there is a process of discussion and negotiation before changes take place," Dr Powers says. Indeed, a report from the Policy Studies Institute two years ago found that 90 listed buidings were demolished last year, and about 700 partly demolished. Developers, in particular, know the ways around planning controls.

Listing, however, does mean restrictive regulations for most homeowners, and possible extra maintenance costs which by law they must bear. Those living in listed modern homes could be saddled with especially high costs, as many such buildings are constructed in a way which makes them difficult to repair. The only hope is for grants from English Heritage; the fear is that spending on modern buildings will eat into funds for repairing the old ones.

On the plus side is the kudos to be had from a listing, which can mean a 5 to 10 per cent premium on the price as long as the house is in good condition and needs no major repair. If so, listing can mean a discount on the price, because of the restrictions on change. Prestige can be costly.

● *"The Age of Optimism" exhibition is at 70-77 Cowcross Street, London EC1, until March 11, courtesy of Alan Baxter and Associates. It will then visit other venues around the country. Details from English Heritage (071-973 3000).*

The architects' Grade choices

MICHAEL MANSER, the architect of a steel and glass house in Horsmonden, Kent — itself a potential candidate for a Grade listing — would choose for listing the steel-framed and clad house designed by John Winter in Highgate, north London.

This spectacular three-storey house was built by Mr Winter for his family in 1968. It is set in the garden of the house where the superintendent of Highgate Cemetery once lived. Beneath the garden is a caved-in tunnel through which bodies, including that of Karl Marx, were carried to graves on the eastern side of the cemetery.

The house frame is clad with panels of a steel called Cor-Ten, which rusts at a slow, controlled rate. The result is an exterior in a pretty russet colour which needs no maintenance and looks good with an acreage of double-glazed windows. "The only outside painting we've ever done is the odd coat of white on the front door, which is wooden", Mr Winter says. Controlled rusting means the house is good for another 800 years, he adds.

To accommodate two adults and three children, Mr Winter put the bedrooms on the middle storey. The ground floor is for everyday use, with an earth-coloured tiled floor and sliding glass doors to the garden. On the top floor, a central fireplace separates the living area from Mr and Mrs Winter's workroom — the equivalent of the Victorian parlour, an oasis of calm.

RICHARD MATHER, who designed the much praised, low-energy residence for the University of East Anglia, Norwich, would choose for listing the home built by the architect David Wild at 44 Rochester Place in north London. It is, says Mr Mather, a wonderful solution to the problem of building a modern house in a traditional London terrace.

Mr Wild did most of the construction work himself, with the aid of a bricklayer and, occasionally, some of his architectural students. "I worked on building sites when I failed my A-levels and I'm glad I did," he says. "Architecture has become too rarified; a university discipline, not a polytechnic one."

Mr Wild's house is made of concrete and concrete blocks, rendered, with floated wooden floors. It was built between 1970 and 1983, and in 1985 it won a Civic Trust award. He finds it comfortable and practical, with good sound insulation.

BRIAN ASHLEY BARKER is a consultant on historic buildings and was surveyor of historic buildings for the old Greater London Council. He would choose for listing a traditional house, King's Walden Bury. This large Palladian dwelling near Hitchin, Hertfordshire, was designed by the late Raymond Erith, two of whose houses feature in "The Age of Optimism" exhibition, and built for Sir Thomas Pilkington between 1969 and 1971. It stands in the park of a late 19th-century house, and Erith used for measurement the Venetian foot, 14in instead of 12in long, to give the building a more generous Italian scale.

"It is brick-built with stone dressings; a big, solid house not at all typical of the late 1960s, but perhaps worth listing for that reason," Mr Ashley Barker says. "Erith was respected by the modernists for the quality of his work. In a way he was a later Lutyens. He had private means and was able to pick and choose his commissions.

"Classical houses still had an effect on all building when this one was built, and still do. A number of biggish houses in the classic style have been built in postwar years and, just because they were out of the current fashion when built, it does not mean they can be overlooked when it comes to listing important buildings."

FRANK JEFFERY

RICHARD EINZIG



John Winter's Highgate home

RICHARD BRYANT



David Wild's concrete house

FOR SALE

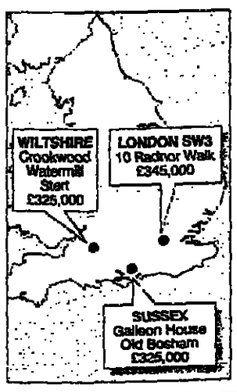
about £335,000



Sussex: Galleon House, High Street, Old Bosham. Grade II-listed Queen Anne house incorporating a self-contained flat, with a rear courtyard garden, in a picturesque village. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms (one en suite), drawing-room, dining-rooms, kitchen/breakfast-room, garden lobby, cloakroom and cellar. Ground-floor flat with one bedroom, bathroom, two reception-rooms, kitchen and utility-room. About £325,000 (John D Wood, 071-493 4106).



London: 10 Radnor Walk, Chelsea, SW3. Freehold terrace house off King's Road, with a west-facing garden. Two bedrooms, bathroom, drawing-room, dining-room, kitchen, utility-room and cellar. About £345,000 (John D Wood, 071-352 1484).





Wiltshire: Crookwood Watermill, Stert, Devizes. Renovated watermill in three acres, at the foot of Salisbury Plain. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, drawing-room, dining-room, study, kitchen, utility-room and cloakroom. Outbuildings. About £325,000 (Knight, Frank & Rutley, 0488 682726).

C.T.

Buyer's France NORMANDY

Find a rural retreat



As spring approaches, English buyers cross the Channel to find a weekend retreat in northern France for a fraction of the price they would pay in southern England.

With the French domestic property market languishing in the doldrums, bargains are plentiful, particularly in rural Normandy. Cash buyers can negotiate up to 15 per cent off asking prices in some places.

The Seine-Maritime area is popular with British weekenders, as the prospect of the Channel tunnel and a new motorway from Calais to Rouen is making it more accessible. The area is within two hours' drive of Boulogne or Calais, or you can sail direct to Dieppe or Le Havre. The gentle, rolling countryside is scattered with river valleys and densely woodd slopes.

In a tiny hamlet, near the village of Bacqueville-en-Caux, about half an hour's drive from the ferry port of Dieppe, a converted 17th-century "pressoir" (cider house) and self-contained guest cottage with half an acre of landscaped gardens is for sale at £125,000.

Renovation of the 300-year-old property has been carried out to a high standard: many original features, including beamed ceilings, floor tiles and inglenook fireplaces, have been retained.

The house has three bedrooms, bathroom, drawing-room, dining-room, a fully equipped kitchen, utility room and cloakroom. The price includes a modernised self-contained two-bedroomed cottage in the grounds, to be sold fully furnished. The UK agent is Domus Abroad, 4, Gardnor Road, London NW3 1HA (071-431 4692).

Or, you can buy a detached 16th-century "colombage" (half-timbered) house (pictured above), in three-quarters of an acre of pasture and woodland, near the market town of Bolbec, and between Yvetot and Le Havre, for about £62,000.

The house is in good condition, but needs some minor work inside. It has five bedrooms, bathroom, shower-room, dining-room and living-room (with open fireplaces), study, and fitted kitchen.

Contact Northern France Properties, 25 Vanston Place, Fulham, London SW6 1AZ. (071-386 9826).

CHERYL TAYLOR

THE TIMES

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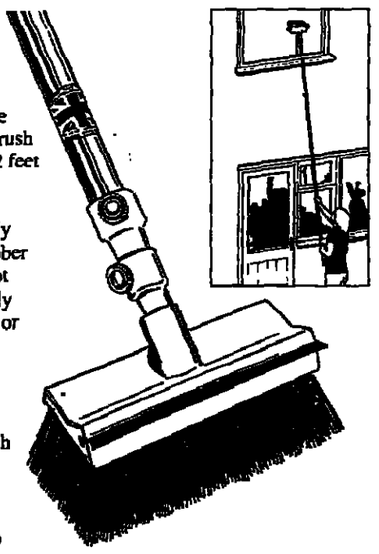
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George Plumptre on the dilemmas of moving to a smaller garden and the joys of starting afresh

Even small plots need big ideas

Experience has taught me that gardening is about adapting to change. About two years ago we moved from a large country garden of four acres to a village garden measuring roughly 25 paces by 14.

My writing and other work frequently take me away from home, while three small children and a part-time job occupy most of my wife Ra's time. We are never able to spend more than a few hours a week in the garden, at weekends or on summer evenings. And anyway, in the first year at our new garden we followed the golden rule of waiting and watching what came up before making any big changes. That also gave us time to see how we wanted to use the garden.

Being on the edge of Wealden clay, the soil is fairly neutral, but its consistency varies more than I would have expected in such a small area. The circular bed, where at the moment there are shrub roses to which we are adding other small shrubs and summer perennials such as penstemons, is very heavy with a tendency to dry out in the summer. We plan to continue forking in a good mix of compost and rotted manure.

Another narrow border that faces southeast dried out to rock hardness last summer. Given the strong sun that the border gets through the summer, plants here have to be carefully chosen. Last year was very much a watching brief, not least because ground elder and other established weeds needed removing. Cistus, helianthemums and dianthus will, I hope, do well when we plant them later this year.

The most workable soil is in the border beneath the north-east-facing boundary wall, which has summer sun on it until mid-afternoon. There, we will plant some geraniums among the existing day lilies.

Like all those who inherit an established garden, we face the dilemma of whether to improve what is there or to start from scratch. We have the added problem that we will probably be here for only a short time, and we will try to make many of the improvements to the garden low-cost or even removable, so that we can take some of the garden when we move. Large pots and planters will play a part in our scheme.

One boundary fence has become overgrown with ivy, which also deprives the narrow border in front of moisture. The ideal solution would be to remove the ivy and rebuild the fence, but we are living with it in case we move. The borders around the edges of the garden would be more effective if they were wider, and, as I will discuss on this page in a month's time, some of the plants we found here when we arrived are too invasive or large for the limited area.

While I was unwilling to carry out any drastic changes last year, until we had lived with the garden for a full season, now I can see where replacements would be beneficial, bringing in plants whose smaller size is better suited to the garden's overall scale.

Another blessing that comes with a small garden is the ease with which limited changes such as new planting have an effect. In our old garden, the 20 or so plants that we first put out in the main border seemed lost and it was four years before the border began to fill out. Here the same number makes an immediate impact, and the combination of two or three plants is all that is needed for an effect.

The late-summer, profusely-flowered *Caryopteris* "Heavenly Blue", with the perennial grass *Pennisetum villosum* was a successful combination that we added last year. For February and March we have randomly planted a selection of hellebores *(orientalis)* among the snowdrops and primroses on a small, shaded bank at the front of the house.

We are fortunate in that the garden is sheltered on all sides so that neither wind nor severe frost are a problem. You only appreciate not having wind blasting in and stunting the growth of young trees and shrubs when you have gardened in an exposed place as we did previously.

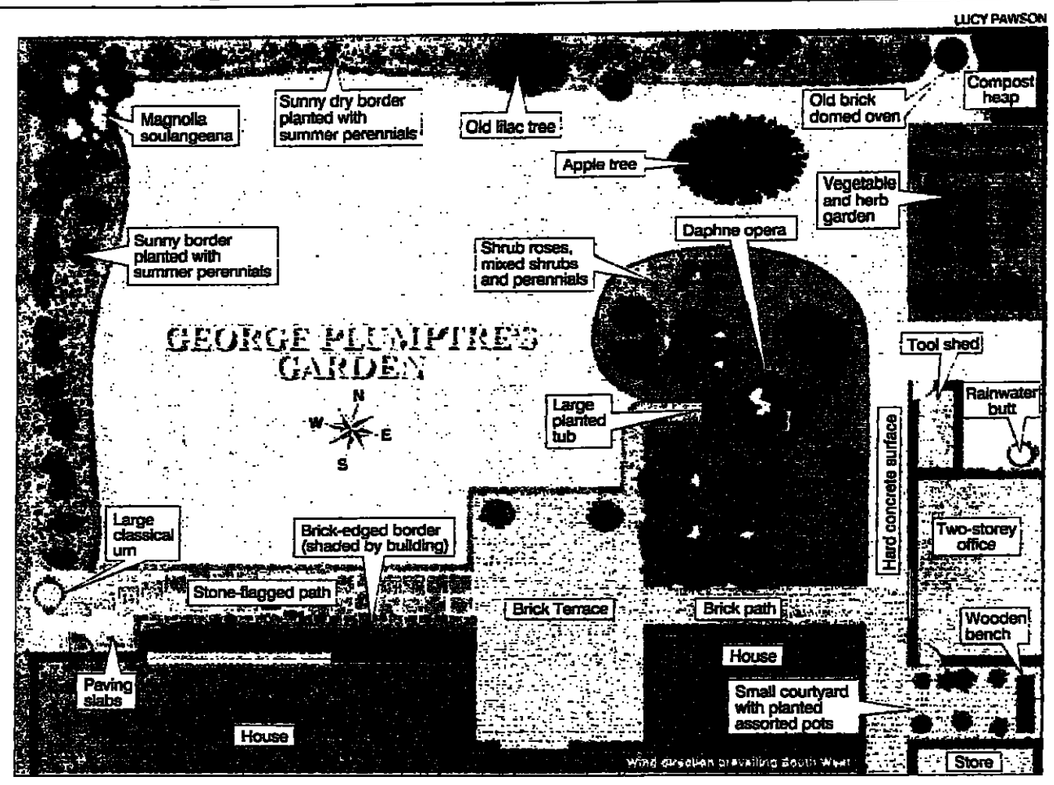
Although not adventurous, the simple layout is well suited to the garden's limited size. The paths and terrace help to make the garden an inviting extension of the house in summer. The dining-room door leads on to the brick terrace, which is ideal for eating out and entertaining, and, despite the vagaries of the weather, we usually manage to spread our (very occasional) informal parties out into the garden when guest numbers top the 20 mark.

By midsummer, we start the barbeques in the old brick oven near one corner of the garden, using rosemary and sage from the garden to add flavour to the outdoor meal.

Our garden furniture has to be easy to move and so we use a trestle table — with a cloth thrown over it for parties — and lightweight, white, plastic garden chairs that can be stacked and stored.

Finally, the garden is home to Wyndham, aged eight, Piers, six and Hermione, two. In a confined space a positive relationship between small children and horticulture is challenging — neat lawns and outdoor games are hardly compatible — but in the weeks to come I will explain how we attempt to achieve a harmonious experience.

LUCY PAWSON



WEEKEND TIPS

- *Sow sweet pea seed in compost under glass, having soaked seed overnight to encourage germination. Prick seedlings into pots after about ten days.*
- *Move snowdrops when they have finished flowering but are still "in the green", and divide clumps to increase flowering next year.*
- *Sow seed of early half-hardy annuals under glass.*
- *Sow green-seeded broad beans. Green Windsor cooks and freezes well.*
- *Prune old-fashioned shrub roses, cutting back new growth to give shape.*

In my mother's footsteps

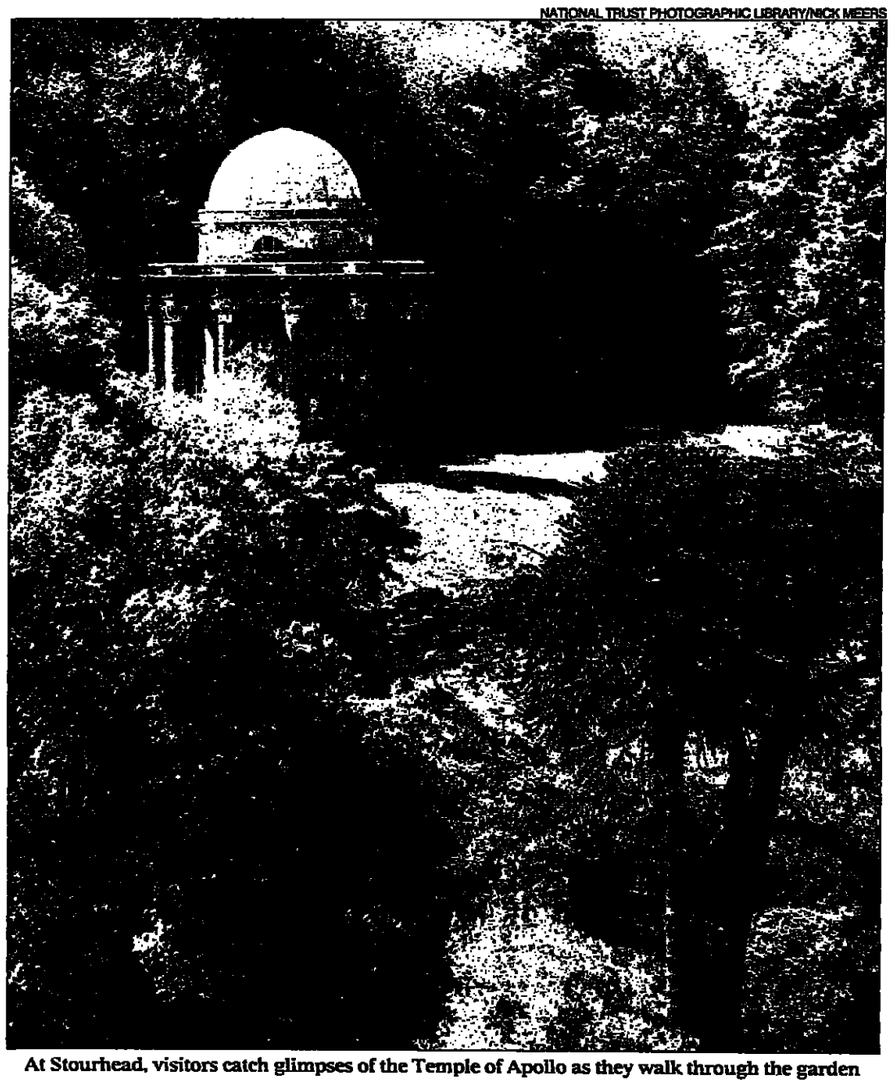
Lessons from some of Britain's greatest — and largest — landscapes can be applied to even the smallest garden. The trick is to get the scale right

THE GOLDEN PICTURE LIBRARY



The lady in riding habit is suddenly revealed at Barnsley House

NATIONAL TRUST PHOTOGRAPHIC LIBRARY/NICK MEERS



At Stourhead, visitors catch glimpses of the Temple of Apollo as they walk through the garden



Endless variety . . . the pleasance of Edzell Castle (left) and the splendour of Goodnestone Park

My original enthusiasm for gardens was aroused at my parent's home, Goodnestone Park, in Kent, *George Plumptre writes*. When my mother began to breathe new life into the place, she had no formal training, just an enviable setting to work in and the bones of an old garden. Its atmosphere is created by the planting combinations: old-fashioned roses, clematis and other wall-plants, and quantities of hardy perennials; and by the romantic background of old walls and trees, and the church tower at one end. Now, after 40 years, the garden features in guide books and in British and American magazines.

Although the garden at Goodnestone is large, 14 acres in all, it is neither formal nor ornamental. Developed to make the most of its existing surroundings, it balances traditional areas, such as the vegetable garden with flower borders in part of the walled garden, with exciting discoveries, such as the collection of cornus (dogwood) shrubs and trees (some renowned for their coloured stems that brighten winter) in the small woodland garden.

Fifteen years ago, when I was 22, I began a freelance career writing about gardens, and confronted Britain's often formidable, usually expert, garden owners. Ground rules for visits soon emerged. Polite ignorance was a safer bet than overconfidence. As we progressed along a richly planted border, its serried ranks anonymous because "we hate the idea of littering the garden with National Trust-style labels", murmurs of appreciation would be interrupted by the challenge, "Of course you know that charming little fellow?" I had never met him before and, no, I was not aware that he was *biannial*, unlike more common members of his family who were *biennial*.

It suited both parties to allow the host or hostess to assume the role of instructor as well as guide. All garden owners enjoy talking about their gardens in detail; and I was able to clamber further up my learning ladder by listening and scribbling furiously in my notebook.

In the early 1980s, the research for a guide-book took me to some 250 gardens across England, Scotland and Wales. The book eventually included 200 gardens: not only the big and famous, but small, lesser-known places, a certain number in every English county and others in Scotland and Wales.

Among my favourites were the early 17th-century pleasance at Edzell Castle in Angus, Tayside; the half-acre garden made since the 1970s around the modern Clock House in the close of Cardiff's Llandaff Cathedral; the Victorian garden at Somerleyton Hall on the Suffolk coast; the woodland garden at Minterne, Dorset, developed by the Digby family since the 1760s, and the Old Rectory garden at Farnborough on the Berkshire Downs, created over the past 30 years by Caroline Todhunter and filled with enticing plant combinations.

The work left me marvelling at the richness of Britain's gardens and the people who maintain them.

There were unexpected discoveries. At Brynhyfryd, on a sheer hillside in Gwynedd, I was able to look down on to *Halesia carolina*, the snowdrop tree. Its white, bell-like flowers can look insignificant against a background of sky: from my bird's-eye view it was spectacular. At the Crossing House, beside the King's Cross to Cambridge railway line, trains pass every 20 minutes within 10ft of the property. The owners take it in their stride: they have planted shrubs on the far side of the line so the trains seem to run through the garden.

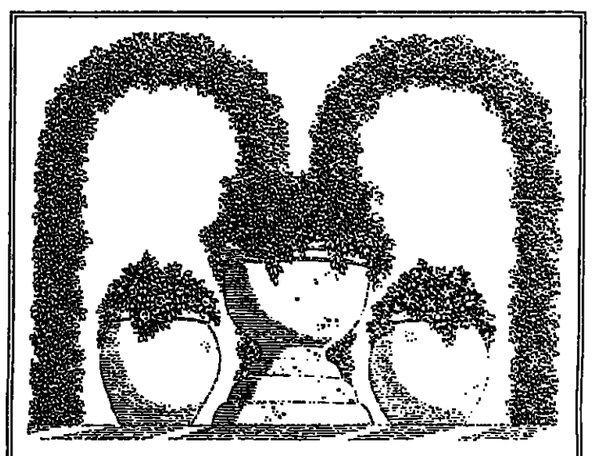
I came to appreciate the subtle differences between a garden taken on in a mature state and one created from new; and how half an acre could be as absorbing as a landscape of hundreds of acres.

For most people, a great 18th-century park and garden is not easy to equate with life today. "Dear old Repton didn't exactly think of nipping out to get a lettuce for supper when he laid out the park with the vegetable garden a quarter of a mile away," remarked Lady Cotterell about her home, Garnons in Herefordshire, one of Humphry Repton's major landscape gardens.

People sometimes complain that they cannot draw ideas from large gardens. Of course you cannot transport Stourhead into your own plot. But this Wiltshire landscape provides examples that can be adapted on a reduced scale to most gardens, for instance the siting of ornaments. The manner in which the Temple of Apollo on a wooded hill at Stourhead is revealed to different viewpoints demonstrates a principle that is equally successful on a smaller scale at, for example, Rosemary Verey's Barnsley House garden in Gloucestershire, where a statue of a lady is suddenly revealed among a group of shrubs.

Above all, visiting gardens has helped me to understand why so many British gardens are renowned worldwide: it is to do not with a garden owner's knowledge of botanical nomenclature, the ability to grow the world's biggest marrow or even the ability to employ gardeners and garden designers so much as with passion, dedication and originality.

● *Goodnestone Park, near Wingham, Canterbury, Kent, is open on Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri and Sat, Mar28-Oct28, 11am-5pm; Sun, April 3-Oct2, noon-6pm. £2, OAPs £1.60, disabled in wheelchairs £1, under-12s 20p. Home-made teas Wed and Sun, May 20-Aug 29.*



GARDEN ANSWERS



In the first of a new series, STEPHEN ANDERTON welcomes readers' questions and addresses some garden problems

Q Every year my lawn seems to get more and more lichen in it. Last year I hired a scarifier and scratched it out, but now it is as bad as ever. What can I do?

A Lichen is really more a symptom of weak, badly aerated turf than a problem in itself. Treat the real problem and it should go away. Sulphate of iron spread at 2oz per square yard will (temporarily) kill the lichen. Then aerate the lawn by pricking it with a fork or, if the area is large, with a hired aerating machine. Top-dress with screened compost or gritty soil and fertiliser to put some heart into the grass. I suspect you may be cutting the grass too short. Try letting it grow a little longer, say, 1in, to get its strength up and, if possible, mow with a rotary machine with a grass box rather than a heavy cylinder machine.

Q I have often tried sowing vegetables under cloches in March but germination is always poor. What's wrong with what I am doing?

A The warmth generated in the soil under a cloche is not immediate. Next year put out the cloches for a few weeks *before* you sow, to get the soil warmed up to temperature. Do not sow too deeply, and stick to the recommendations on the seed packet. Sowing as deep as 5in will inhibit germination in many vegetables.

Q I am having trouble with roe deer coming into the garden in the early morning. They seem to love chewing off the new shoots of even the thorniest roses. Is there anything I can do to keep them out, short of going to the expense of erecting tall fences?

A There is a cheaper answer than fencing, although it may sound like an old wives' tale. Try hanging up small net bags of human hair — a handful will do — at deer's nose height where you know they enter the garden. The smell sets their alarm bells ringing, like garlic to a vampire. If your garden is very open, with no obvious entry routes, then some fencing may have to be the answer.

Q I always start pots and hanging baskets of petunias (the more purple, the better the scent) in the greenhouse, to give a perfumed air on our patio later in the year. Have you any other ideas for pot plants which give off scents?

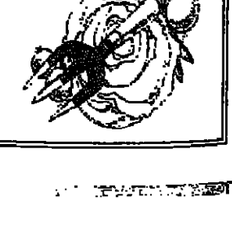
A My immediate recommendation would be regale lilies. They are overwhelmingly fragrant. If you like being overwhelmed, this is the one for you. You can lift them now from the garden (or buy them), setting them three to a 10in pot, with 6in of soil *over* the bulbs (they will produce roots from the stem above the bulb, as well as below).

Use a rich, gritty compost and, for preference, a straight-sided stable pot, as they may grow up to 5-6ft. Bring them on in a cool greenhouse, and place them with your pots outside when bud is about to break. They will bloom for three to four weeks if the roots are not cooked by the sun.

Q Something is grazing off my seedling brassicas, nipping them through at ground level. Any ideas what this might be?

A This sounds like an annoying little trick of common woodlice. Dust the seedlings with the pesticide and destroy by hand any colonies you can find sleeping the day away under pots and seed trays.

● *Readers wishing to have their gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that no personal answers can be given and point out that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times also regrets that neither enclosures nor goods accompanying letters can be returned.*



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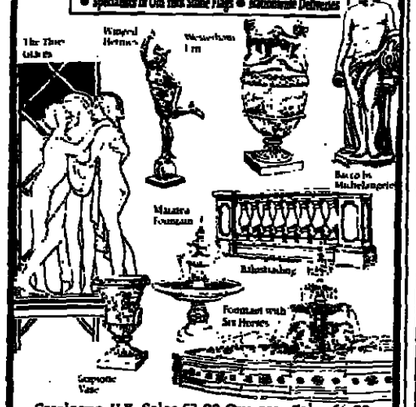
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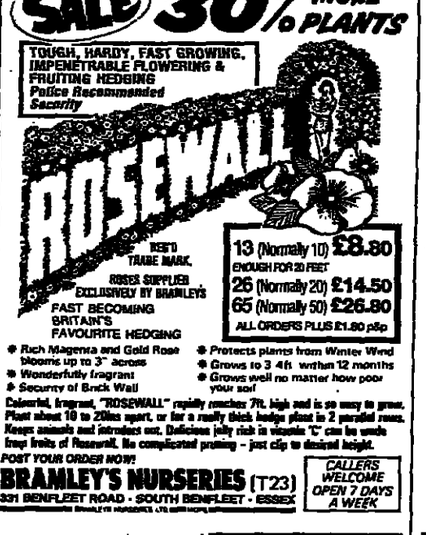
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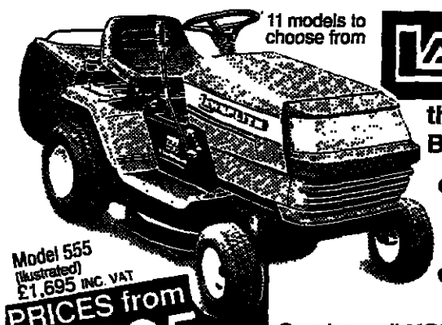
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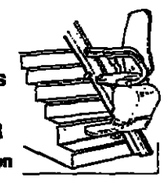
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ANSWERS

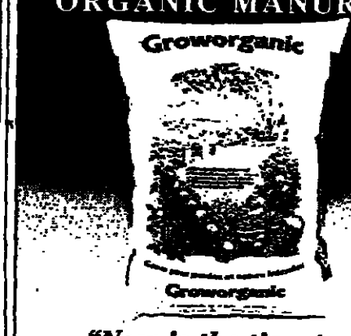
In the latest of a new series STEPHEN ANDERTON welcomes readers' questions on any address or garden problem

Q I always miss [illegible] the sound of [illegible] give a [illegible] pansies later [illegible] any other [illegible] which grow?

A [illegible]

THE TIMES
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THE TIMES
READER OFFER

EXTENDING TREE LOPPER
just £34.95 inc FREE saw attachment

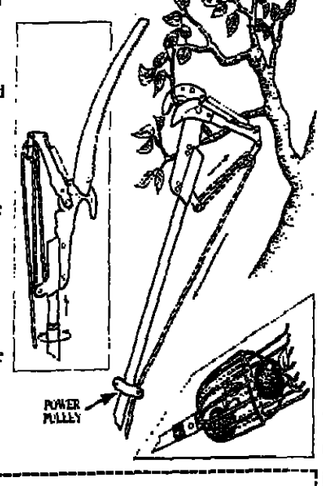
This extending tree lopper provides the easiest and safest way to prune those hard to get at branches.

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In addition we are offering a highly efficient fruit picking basket, which can be used with the telescopic pole and will enable you to get to your fruit before something else does!!

Representing excellent value, the tree lopper with saw is available for £34.95 and the fruit picker is £6.95, both prices include carriage. Please allow 28 days for delivery. If you are not completely satisfied please return, within 7 days, for a full refund.



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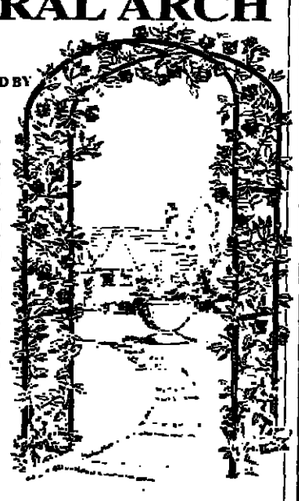
This superb Rose Arch is made to a unique design and is specially commissioned from Agriframes, Britain's leading manufacturer of quality garden structures. It is available only by mail order through Ashdown Special reader offers.

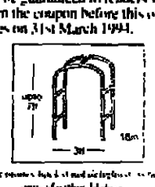
Imagine the possibilities. Use your arch to form romantic and fragrant entrances from one part of your garden to another. As a focal point over a path, framing a gateway or even as a charming floral porch over a door. A series of arches draped with clematis or honeysuckle creates the graceful pergola effect so evocative of the English country garden.

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But we do advise you to place your order early.

Production for this Spring is strictly limited and availability can only be guaranteed to readers who return the coupon before this offer closes on 31st March 1994.





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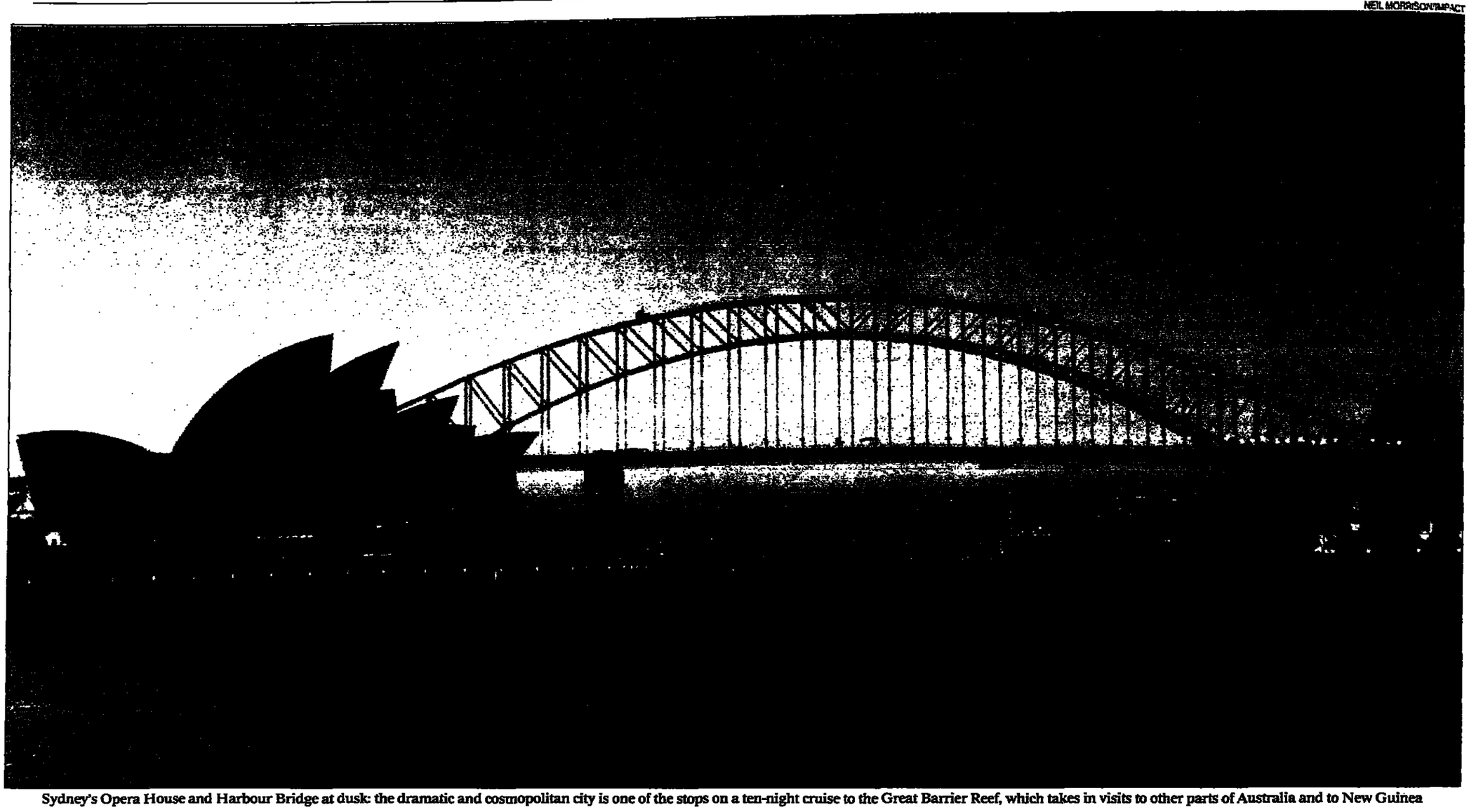
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STILL BOOKING: exotic tours to far-flung destinations and short breaks at home and on the Continent

NEIL MORRISON/IMPACT



Sydney's Opera House and Harbour Bridge at dusk: the dramatic and cosmopolitan city is one of the stops on a ten-night cruise to the Great Barrier Reef, which takes in visits to other parts of Australia and to New Guinea

Join the Easter getaway

It is not too late to think about taking a break over the Easter weekend, or during the school holidays. Easter trips can be expensive but special deals are available, often with good rates for children.

You have to go a fair way to find decent weather in April, although some destinations in the brochures are surprisingly warm by then. In Eilat, Israel, the average maximum daily temperature is 87F, in Marrakech, Morocco, 79F. Madeira's average April temperatures are only 58F to 67F. Nearly all the Caribbean islands offer sunny weather. In Mombasa, Kenya, average temperatures reach 86F; in California, 70F is about the highest you can expect.

LONG HAUL

ONE OF the most exotic treats imaginable is to cruise the Galapagos islands aboard a 58ft yacht that sleeps six, with your own crew, chef and naturalist. Cabins have private bathrooms. The 14-night departure, with Worldwide Journeys and Expeditions (071 381 8638), starts on March 28; the price, £3,385.

You can take a ten-night cruise on Cunard's *Crown Monarch* to Australia's Great Barrier Reef, calling at Samarai Island, New Guinea, and stopping at Sydney and Cairns. Depart Heathrow or Manchester from April 15. Escoa Cruises (0272 272273). Cost from £1,785.

Swan Hellenic's first Mediterranean cruise this year is to the classical sites of Greece and Turkey. Cost is from £1,530 travelling April 6 to 20 (071-831 1515). Swan's Indonesian Expedition Cruise (071-831 1666) follows old pirate routes, departing April 4 (make your own way to Jakarta). Cost is $2,060 (£1,380).

An 18-day Indian Mexico and Yucatan tour organised by Explore Worldwide (0252 319448) visits ancient Mayan and Aztec sites such as Monte Albán's pyramids and the temples of Tikal, then continues through Guatemala's rain forest. A 24-day tour finishes in Yucatán. Departs March 31, price £1,329 for flights and room only.

Cox & Kings's eight-day Indian Experience, April 2-9, visits Agra, Jaipur and Delhi for £815 for bed and breakfast (071-873 5000).

Kuoni (0306 740500) is offering a £300 saving on 14 nights' half-board on the resort island of Ari Beach in the Maldives. Departure April 4, price £599 with bar credit of $100 per couple, no single supplements.

Shakespeare, opera and polo are on the programme in Barbados during the Holders Easter Opera Season (March 20-April 2) in the grounds of one of the original plantation houses. Leading opera singers will be accompanied by the City of London Chamber Orchestra. (tickets only 071-222 7474).

Elegant Resorts (0244 329671) has seven nights' full board at Tamarind Cove, Barbados, departing March 26 for £2,315 (flying Concorde, £3,340). Travel for the Arts (071-483 4466) also offers visits to the opera festival from March 25, from £1,500.

Tickets for the entire cricket Test Match on the island, from April 8 to 13, cost from £65, through Caribbean Gold (081-741 8491); departures from £899 on March 30 to various hotels.

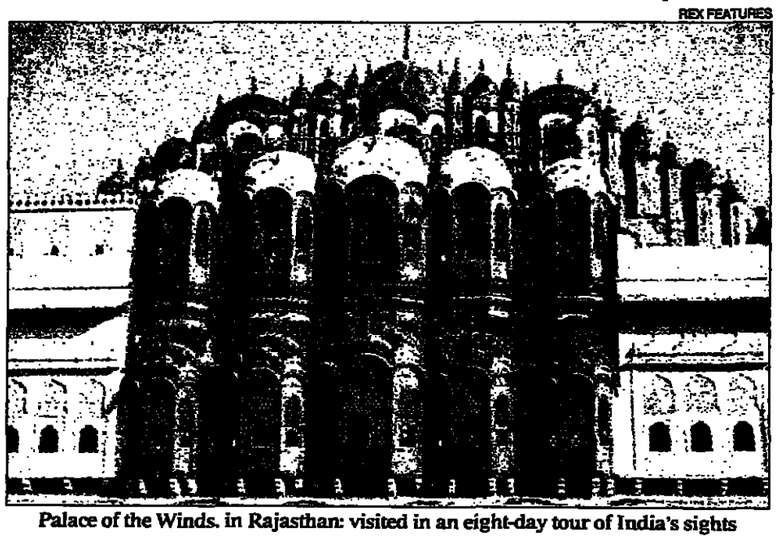
One of Jamaica's finest houses, Good Hope, built in 1755, has been restored to its former glory. Staff provide all meals, and horses are available to ride across the 2,000-acre estate. The holiday is for accommodation only, and costs £910 half-board per person per week, through Elegant Resorts of Jamaica (071-730 7144). Unijet (0444 458181) has 14-day flights from Gatwick to Montego Bay airport on April 4 for £339.

EUROPE

FAMILIES with young children will find qualified British nannies at Chalet Les Gourmets in Morzine, in the Haute Savoie, France (skiing up to 7,500ft). The nannies run a half-day crèche (four months to four years). Some free baby-sitting. Seven days' half-board (from April 3) costs £389; discounts for children. Ski Esprit (0252 616789).

If you are aged 30 to 40 and do not mind sharing a room with a stranger of the same sex, a week's skiing with Solo's (081-202 0855), leaving March 27 to Macugnagna, in the Italian Alps, costs £514 half-board.

REX FEATURES



Palace of the Winds, in Rajasthan: visited in an eight-day tour of India's sights

SKIING

INTER-CONTINENTAL and Forum hotels in Europe are offering a Heart of the City Easter Spectacular programme. Between March 25 and April 4 you can save up to 50 per cent. Extra nights free at 38 hotels (081-847 2277).

Cresta (0345 626263) offers a third night free on château holidays in France. The 18th-century Château Chartreuse du Val St Esprit, at Gosnay, is an hour's drive from Dunkirk. Depart April 1 from Ramsgate. Three nights' b&b £120 per person including ferry.

Exodus (081-675 5550) has a week in an Andalusian farmhouse with a 25-acre "garden", including half-day mule trek and excursion to Seville, departing March 30. Cost: £510 half board including wine.

The vast Forte Village on Sardinia is partially open at Easter. The five-star "resort" is set in 55 acres of lush grounds next to a sandy beach. It also has fresh-water pools. Accommodation is in two different hotels and costs include spa facilities, golf, watersports, tennis and indoor leisure. Full-board cost for seven nights from March 23 is 1.425 million lire (£548) per person. Book direct: 010 39 709 218059.

THE CONTINENT

THE Hythe Imperial (0303 267441) is a good old-fashioned seaside hotel on the south coast, with its own golf course. Exceptionally tolerant of children, it has an indoor pool and leisure centre, playroom, video room and children's dining room. Three nights at Easter cost £235 per person half board with Sunday lunch. Under 12s sharing charged £22.50 (excluding meals). 12-16s £80, or £155 for the three nights with their own room.

The Old Parsonage Hotel (0865 310210), reputedly the lodgings of Oscar Wilde, is within walking distance of Oxford's sights. Elegantly converted, it has a restaurant/bar lined with prints and paintings. Cost £135 per room per night, including breakfast.

Homewood Park (0225 723731), near Bath, is a pretty 18th-century home where the excellent chef makes his own bread and chutneys and the house is filled with flowers from the ten-acre grounds. Two nights from £280 to £320 per couple, including dinner.

In London, the 20-room Pembridge Court Hotel (071-229 9977) near Portobello Road, has Easter weekend breaks at £89 for a deluxe double room (for two including breakfast) — saving £51. Stay two nights and you are given a bottle of champagne.

For those with children, especially teenagers, the Stoke-on-Trent Moat House (0782 219000), near Alton Towers, is on the redeveloped Festival Park "leisure estate", with ten-screen cinema, ten-pin bowling, Waterworld, and dry-slope skiing. The hotel has a leisure club. Two nights' half board at Easter weekend is £49 each. Under sixes, free, under 16s charged for meals only, if sharing a room with parents. Not that any teenager I know would dream of it.

CHANNEL ISLANDS

IN JERSEY, a free hire car is included in a three-night stay at L'Horizon (April 1-4). The hotel overlooks a sandy beach and has a health club and indoor pool. Cost: £300 half board each with sea-view room and Sunday lunch. One child under 12 stays free if sharing, a second costs £30 nightly (0534 43101). The new Condor 10 catamaran takes three-and-a-half hours from Weymouth (0305 761551).

SUSAN GROSSMAN

EASTER SPECIALS



Enjoy a Leisure Break this Easter at these value for money prices.
The rates quoted below show the total cost of a 3 night Easter Leisure Break per person which includes: • Shared standard double/twin room with ensuite facilities • Table d'hote dinner & breakfast each day. • Boxed Easter egg per person. • Spring flowers in your room. Easter breaks at hotels marked + do not include Easter eggs & flowers. Stays must be for a minimum of 3 nights including Easter Sunday 3rd April 1994. There may be a supplement for single occupancy where a hotel does not have single rooms. Please phone the hotel of your choice to book your Easter Leisure Break.
* AA rosette for cuisine SP Swimming Pool PP Plunge Pool + Break does not include Easter Eggs & Flowers

£125 and under

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Enjoy Easter in the Highlands overlooking Loch Linnhe and dining in our 2 rosetted restaurant.

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EDINBURGH
Roxburghe Hotel £135.00
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Royal Hotel * £137.00
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£149 and under

LLANDUDNO, N.Wales
Imperial Hotel SP* £148.50
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SUTTON COLDFIELD
Moor Hall Hotel SP+ £148.50
Tel: (0211 308 3751
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SWANAGE, Dorset Coast
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A relaxing break in stunning Dorset scenery. Beautifully refurbished Victorian hotel with excellent food

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RIPON, N. Yorks
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One of the finest hotel & leisure clubs to be found.

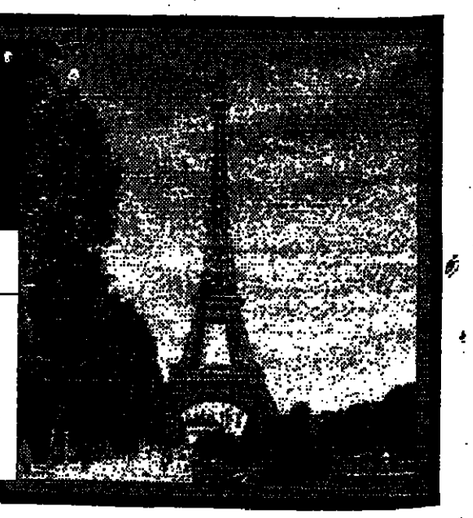
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CHRIS WRIGHT



The Moat House in Pucklechurch can accommodate up to 13 people within its Grade II-listed rambling walls

How about a break in the country? We could take a charming old cottage, or the gatehouse lodge on some grand estate. But wait, we've tried that before: holed up in some fragment of the national heritage, we congratulate each other on having neither a television nor central heating and not minding a bit, since we are experiencing country life as only the tue, impoverished aristocracy does. A dribble of hot water from the shower? What fun. Bring your own bed-linen, towels, cooking utensils and supplies? Just like those wonderful days at scout camp. And there's a phone box only 20 minutes' brisk walk away.

Well of course it does not have to be like that. Friends have spoken highly of the houses and cottages rented through the National Trust and Landmark Trust, and just before Christmas I had the opportunity to try out another, similarly up-market organisation, Rural Retreats. This owns or markets short-term, fully furnished, fully serviced, self-catering accommodation, in some of the most attractive areas of the country, from Dorset to Suffolk to the Lake District and the Highlands, but with a preponderance in the Cotswolds and the surrounding counties.

> "There was a gigantic stuffed bear and a grand piano standing in the hall"

Every Rural Retreat property has a minimum level of equipment and amenities that would put many country house hotels to shame: it can be booked for just two nights, or as many more as you wish (there is a minimum of five days at New Year and seven at Christmas). Everyone also has the bonus of complete freedom and control. For the duration of your stay, you are the owner and lord of the manor — and there are some classy houses on the books.

You are also, if you wish, the giver of orders. Although the basic deal is self-catering, you can specify any level of additional service from the occasional dinner, delivered to the door, to full daily maid service and even outside catering for a multi-course banquet, including entertainment *and* the washing up.

The company was set up by two friends, John Beddington and Graeme Brister, in 1987. They were looking for a comfortable hideaway for their respective families and were unable to match quality with price and location. They started out with three properties and now have 68 on their books, with a target (and probable maximum) of 100 within the next two years. In 1991, when a profitable hobby had become a serious business, they brought in Nick House, a former banker, as chief executive. Today there is a staff of ten at the offices in Blockley, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire.

Those houses, cottages and lodges not owned directly by Rural Retreats are generally the second homes of London-based professionals, or the homes of those working overseas. Sometimes the owners are near by, but the rules are clear: these are not hotels, the customer buys privacy and autonomy. If the temporary occupiers wish to cok up a storm, then the kitchens have most things on hand, including microwaves and washing machines; many properties have freezers and dishwashers. If they prefer to skip all that, there's a menu by the payphone and in most areas a meal is only a call away.

I stayed at the Moat House, Pucklechurch, seven miles from both Bath and Bristol, the largest Rural Retreat on offer. Up to 13 people can be comfortably accommodated within its Grade II-listed, rambling, part-medieval walls. There is a panelled sitting-room that is pure Agatha Christie; a baby grand piano and a gigantic stuffed bear in the hall; an enormous farmhouse kitchen (with Aga); and bedrooms that include one with a fourposter bed and another with a magnificent free-standing bath. Owners Gillie Edwards and Brian Muir have restored and furnished the house with robust good taste: it is ideal for a family or old-school friends' reunion house-party, and is booked up already for the next two Christmases.

Not every Rural Retreat property is as old and large as the Moat House, but all sleep at least two people, and the decorative styles cover anything from rustic simplicity to mini-manor house.

On the Welsh borders, in the centre of Clun, the Grade II-listed bothy sleeps just two, but there is a sitting room with an inglenook fireplace and the inventory includes a CD player and video. Achnandarach Lodge, in Plockton, about two and a half hours' drive from Inverness, has magnificent views to the Isle of Skye, and can accommodate between six and nine sharers. One, The Green, Great Wolford, is typical of the Cotswold houses, sleeping from two to five in a village between Moreton-in-Marsh and Chipping Norton.

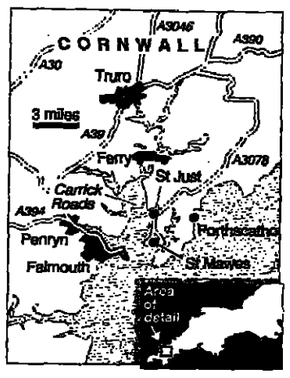
There are eight price codes reflecting this variety, but all include rental, heating and electricity (logs where appropriate), bed-linen, towels, toiletries, a welcoming basket of food and wine, and sports and leisure facilities, where available. Prices range from £117 for two nights in winter for the smallest, Code G property, sleeping two, to £750 for up to 13 sharing the Moat House for three nights in midsummer: weekly prices represent a saving.

Retreating to the country need not mean total isolation: four people sharing the Highcroft Barn, two miles from Stratford-upon-Avon, could enjoy a high level of amenities (including an all-weather tennis court and membership of the Walton Hall country club) and be very well placed for trips to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, at a cost of £325 for three nights, or less than £30 a night each: a midsummer night's dream indeed; in winter the same arrangement costs £180.

TONY PATRICK

● *The author was a guest of Rural Retreats, Station Road, Blockley, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire GL56 9DZ. (0386 701177/fax 701178). For a colour brochure, call the number above.*

Relaxing down on the farm



IF, FOR YOU, the ideal cure for the stress of the working week is a weekend break in the country — just fields, animals, and an old timbered pub down the lane — then what better place to stay than on a farm?

Many farms now take in paying guests and the great advantage of staying at one is that you can choose your area and the type of farm you would like. I found out by accident how good it is during a family weekend in Cornwall. Pottering around in the Roseland peninsula, we were sure we would come across the ideal country hotel to stay in for a couple of nights while exploring, but towards evening it had not appeared and backseat tempers were beginning to fray.

Driving along a country road hardly wide enough to take the car, one of the children spotted a wooden sign, half-hidden in the hedgerows, with the words: "Farm, beds available".

We negotiated our way up a steep, rutted track as sheep stared at us from fields on either side. Two horses looked out over their stable doors as we entered the farmyard (shutting the gate behind us) and two black labradors lolloped up to inspect us as we parked in the forecourt of a fine Georgian house. The children ran around, loving every minute of their contact with the animals, while we stood looking at the broad sweep of fields before us, taking in the smells of the country on the evening air.

Although we had not booked, we were warmly welcomed. Sylvia Retallack, the owner, took us into her house filled with antique furniture and up the wide staircase to an enormous front bedroom decorated in blue and white chintz. The low sash windows, framed with honeysuckle, looked out across the fields to the sea at Porthscatho and there was plenty of room to move around between the double bed, two single beds, the imposing mahogany cupboard and a large dresser. The washbasin in the corner had soft, fluffy towels by its side and the bath stood majestically in the centre of the bathroom across the hall.

As staying on farms has become more popular, so the attractions on offer have multiplied. Many now have tennis courts and indoor swimming pools, as well as animals, and some offer self-catering cottages or camping facilities. We were seekers only of the traditional and could not have chosen a better working farm if we had planned it.

Dinner was served in a dining-room where a log fire burned and the polished table was set with fine cutlery and crystal glasses. Mrs Retallack cooked and served us a superb meal, only letting us help ourselves when it came to the amount of clotted cream we dolloped on the home-made apple crumble. Afterwards, coffee was served in the guests' drawing-room (once the farmhouse dairy), before another enormous log fire.

The breakfast-room held a long, oak table where guests sat together, chatting about what they had seen and were planning to see, while helping themselves to cereal and orange juice before being served a plate heaped with country sausages, bacon, mushrooms, eggs, tomatoes and fried bread. Thick, crunchy toast and homemade marmalade rounded off the meal.

AFTERWARDS, strolling down to the farmyard to converse with the horses, we found — to our amazing good fortune — that it was sheep-shearing day. We stood spellbound, watching the way the animals were held by the shearers and their fleece deftly shorn in one continual motion, so that it came away in one piece and was thrown across the open shed to land, spread-eagled, like fleecy rug.

We spent the rest of the day admiring the prettiness of St Mawes out of season, taking the ferry across to Falmouth and walking around the ancient St Just in Roseland church, which sits in its own tropical gardens right on the edge of Carrick Roads. At Mrs Retallack's suggestion, on our return we bought a bottle of Bordeaux to put the finishing touch to our evening feast.

Many business people on out-of-town trips prefer at the end of a busy day the homely atmosphere of a farm to the anonymity of a hotel. They can park in the relative security of the driveway rather than leave the car on the street, and many farms have faxes and telephones at guests' disposal.

SUSAN MACDONALD

NETWORK/JOHN STURROCK



If you're lucky, you may see sheep-shearing in action

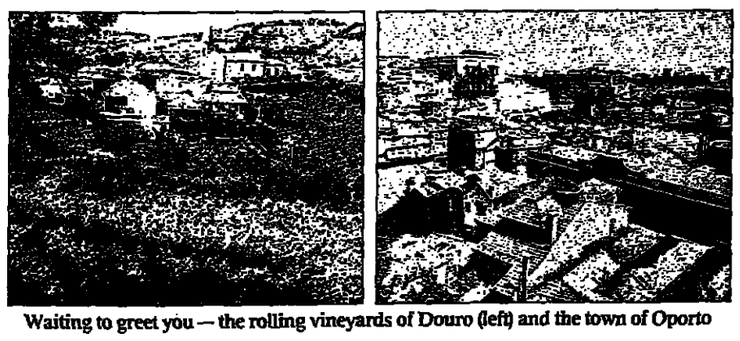
FARM HOLIDAYS: WHERE TO GO

● *Sylvia Retallak, Methers-Collyn Guest House, Porthscatho, Truro, Cornwall (0872 580352). B&b £15 (children under 12, one-third discount). Four-course dinner with coffee £8.50. Open from Easter to October.*

● *Your local tourist information office can provide a list of farms offering holidays and help make bookings.*

● *The Farm Holiday Bureau (National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire CV8 2LZ; 0203 696909) will tell you everything you need to know about farms which cater for guests, and its book, Stay on a Farm (Letts, £5.95, available from the centre), provides a comprehensive guide to farms throughout the UK, and is well worth keeping in the car.*

THE TIMES READER WINE TOUR TO PORTUGAL



Waiting to greet you — the rolling vineyards of Douro (left) and the town of Oporto

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Here's your chance to enjoy a short break in the celebrated wine-growing region of northern Portugal. A five-day trip — from Wednesday, May 11 to Sunday, May 15 — has been organised for *The Times* by Travelcoast Ltd.

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Next day, there is a visit to the Douro region, where Ferreira, a Sogrape subsidiary, makes port and table wines, such as the magnificent Barca Velha, Reserve Especial and Estava.

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Day 3: Visit Quinta do Porto in the Douro, with lunch, dinner and overnight stay in Viseu.

Day 4: Visit Quinta dos Caravalhais, returning to Oporto for dinner and overnight stay at the Hotel Ipanema.

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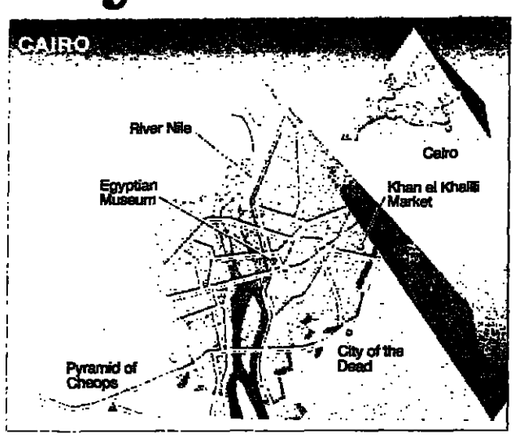
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WEEKEND BREAKS ABROAD: **Alice Thomson** whizzes through 48 centuries in 48 hours in Egypt

A glimpse of the Pyramids





Store selling spices in one of Cairo's bustling side streets. At the huge Khan el Khalili market you can buy anything from dried flowers to plastic furniture

By the banks of the great, grey-green, greasy Nile lies Cairo — a heaving mass of 18 million people, where everything is covered in a fine layer of dust. Cairo is not the first place one would think of for a weekend break. If the idea of the five-hour flight does not put you off, try dwelling on the fumes from three million cars, streets damp with sewage, the chance of an upset stomach and the possibility, though remote, of being blown up by Islamic extremists.

But sandwiched between a leisurely dinner-time flight on Friday evening and a Brit h Airways breakfast of b: n and eggs on a Monday m n-ing, a weekend in Cai is ideal for those of s ng disposition.

Tourists have been targeted by the extremists, and four were killed in a Cairo hotel last October. Since then, the Egyptian government has posted armed guards at all tourist sites and at the main hotels. There have been only three attacks in Cairo so far this year, none fatal, and more than 250,000 British tourists visited Egypt last year with no problems. One of the benefits is that you will not be smothered by endless tour buses disgorging disgruntled American tourists.

The 7.30pm Heathrow flight deposits you, well-fed with only slightly puffy feet, at Cairo airport in the early hours of Saturday morning. A taxi will spirit you into the city, while you listen to the sounds of the muezzin summoning the faithful to prayer, look at the minarets wreathed in neon light, and hear dogs howling in the distance.

Cairo by daylight is less romantic. Cars and buses career about, leaving pedestrians floundering. The constant honking drowns out even the most persistent calls to prayer, and roads shake under pounding feet.

Dust from the desert blows everywhere, turning every cranny yellow, grey and ochre. But the Cairenes, when they materialise from the haze and exhaust fumes, clad in a mixture of robes and leather jackets, are friendly and unflappable, and the weather in Cairo now is pleasantly cool.

All you need is a wodge of tattered Egyptian banknotes for a taxi and you can travel through 48 centuries in 48 hours. No other city in the world has so pressing, so overwhelming a link with its past, and every Egyptian is an amateur guide to that past — although amateur does not necessarily mean free. Charming and affable, they agree with anything you say before waving you into ancient cars, music wailing. The taxi meter, they wink and tell you, stopped in the earthquake of 1992. Everything is arranged by negotiation.

First stop is Islamic Cairo, a hotchpotch of alleyways, where water is obtained from pipes on the street, donkeys haul loads of hay past high-rise flats, and cars narrowly miss mud huts. The area was badly damaged by an earthquake and the wooden props and crumbling pillars make it look like a discarded film set.

Through narrow archways you get fleeting glimpses of Ottoman houses and Turkish baths and hear the beat of the *derabukka*, the native drum. Many of the 400 mosques have been closed for restoration, but there is always someone willing to open the doors. You can have whole mausoleums with lazuli stained-glass windows to yourself and, as long as you do not mind climbing crumbling stairways to reach the top of minarets, peaceful views of Cairo.

In Khan el Khalili, the biggest Arab market in the world, plastic furniture mingles with wedding portraits and gold chains, and your nose is accosted by the sweetly pungent smells of crushed dried flowers, saffron, cinnamon, ginger, turmeric and pepper. Passing stalls piled high with nuts and rotting fruit, you come to glass-blowers practising their art hunched over furnaces in the dark; as they blow bubbles of liquid blue, green and yellow, their headbands catch the sweat streaming down their faces in the heat. A nearby lane resounds to the hammering of vast copper vessels.

Everyone in Cairo seems to be selling something. Going to a perfume shop is worth the ritual. The banter starts in the street: "Have you a mother, sister, girlfriend? You will like my shop." Perfume will be dabbed along both arms and purple phials thrust in front of your nose. The shopkeeper explains that he is the sole supplier of essences for the French perfume houses. This would be slightly more convincing if he did not then offer you a local "Chanel No 5" that parts the crowds as you walk down the street.

The easiest lunch is to grab a pitta bread with *falafel* and eat it on one of the dark-green tombstones in the nearby City of the Dead, a vast necropolis and the only place in Cairo that does not smell. Originally the burial place of the Mameluke sultans, who ruled Egypt between 1250 and 1811, it is home to 500,000 Cairene squatters, who burrow into their ancestors' graves like ants in a hill.

If you wake up early enough on Sunday morning, go to the camel market. The camels are brought up the 40-day road from Sudan and crammed into trucks for the last 24 hours of the journey. Still very frisky, they have one leg tied up, which makes them hop around. Owners will lead you up and down the lines and you could find a decent beast to ride for less than £1,000, although a young one for the cooking pot is cheaper. On-site butchers will skin it for you, together with any goat that takes your fancy. Our smooth leather-clad guide insisted on making us wait while he chose a young goat for his Sunday lunch and watched it being prepared. When we got a little impatient, he rolled his eyes dolefully and said: "Ah, but it is for the orphanage."

BEN EDWARDS/IMPACT



Cairo's camel market sells beasts for riding — and eating

If all this sounds too hectic, you could spend the entire weekend in the Egyptian Museum. If you devoted only a minute to each exhibit it would still take nine months to go round. Two hours with the boy-Pharaoh Tutankhamun and the contents of his tomb and you come out reeling: board games, gilt beds, gold sandals, everything for a rainy day — or for eternity. The museum's immense wealth only hits you when the Roman statues appear modern and fussy, trivial, compared with the 4,000-year-old Sphinx heads.

If you visit the Pyramids of Giza, outside the city, in the evening as we did, you can have the place to yourself.

And what about food? You are as likely to get tacos and chicken fricassee as you are to get *fuul*, *ta'amiyna* and *tahina* in Cairo's restaurants, and the best place to try them all is on one of the restaurant boats that cruise the Nile. Egyptian women plaster themselves in jewellery and make-up while the men get dragged up to partner the belly-dancer. All you need do is sit back and watch the great, grey-green, greasy Nile go by.

TRAVEL TIPS

☐ THE Caribbean can be treated like the Greek Islands by travellers who enjoy island hopping. Liat Super Caribbean Explorer airpass allows unlimited stop-offs and is valid for 30 days. It is available from British Airways (0345 222111), price US$199 (£126). Thomson Airfares and Unijet (0444 458181) have inexpensive charters to several islands, and the local tourist boards have lists of guest houses. More information from the Caribbean Tourism Organisation (071-233 8382).

☐ YOU CAN fly from country to country in South America in a similar way. Varig's Mercosur airpass (071-629 9408) for travel between Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay costs from US$225 to US$870 (£145-£550). Routes have to be pre-booked and must include at least two countries.

☐ ANYONE contemplating a drive round Portugal, can buy room-only "séjour" vouchers which offer savings of about 50 per cent at three or four-star hotels. Valid all-year, they cost £45 (for two) and can be bought in advance from Keytel (071-402 8182).

☐ AUSTRIA IS more easily reached by car from the end of May when a weekly overnight motorail service starts between Calais and Innsbruck (French Railways 071-409 3518). If you prefer to fly, and live near Manchester, Lauda Air's (0800 767 737) new service to Vienna, using 50-seater Canadair jets, begins at the end of March. £199 return (book seven days in advance and stay over a weekend).

☐ SEVERAL holiday companies have good savings if you can get away before Easter. Discovery Cruises (071-586 7191) has cut the cost of its seven-night Mediterranean Wanderer cruise, departing on March 18, by £265. The cruise, calling at Greece, Turkey, Israel, Cyprus, Rhodes and Crete with on-board lectures costs from £475 to £525 (£595 for a single berth).

☐ THOMSON (081-200 8733) has three or four-night breaks to the Dutch tulipfields from £219, including flights and half-board accommodation (over the Easter weekend or just before). It also has three-night b&b breaks to Florence, Rome (from £209) or Paris (from £125).

☐ SUPERBREAK'S Events Portfolio (071-278 0383) includes tickets for concerts and shows, from the Harrogate Flower Show in April, to the Bolshoi ballet at Birmingham in June, as well as overnight stays.

☐ VENUES worth considering to celebrate Mothering Sunday on March 13 are the many National Trust houses which, although officially closed, will open their restaurants for lunch or tea (071-227 4802).

SUSAN GROSSMAN

Travel notes

● Alice Thomson was a guest of Somak Holidays, whose travel package to Cairo includes return British Airways flights plus three nights b&b. Prices start at £387 staying at the Forte Pyramid Hotel, near the Pyramids of Giza on the outskirts of the city. Visas for Egypt can be bought at Cairo Airport for £10. Somak Holidays (081-423 3000) is fully bonded with Abta.

● Foreign Office advice is: "Since 1992 there have been continuing incidents of violence in Egypt, mainly launched by Islamic extremists... But over 250,000 British tourists visited Egypt in 1993 and experienced no security difficulty. Complete security cannot be guaranteed. Visitors should be vigilant, avoid the Assuit and Dairut areas and behave and dress discreetly."

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Mark Warner
CORSICA SARDINIA ITALY GREECE

SPRING SNOW: go high, go late for some of the best sport the Alps can offer, says **Doug Sager**

Skiing across the roof of Europe

I always wanted to do the Haute-Route, the holy grail of skiing. Brag all you want about a back-country tour or ski safari; when you say you have done the Haute-Route, conversation stops.

The rooftop route from Saas Fee in Switzerland to Chamonix in France is 75 miles of bottomless crevasses and soaring séracs. The Haute-Route traverses three countries sparsely doted with remote mountain huts. It is true wilderness in the heart of Europe: vast fields of untouched snow... no crowds, no lifts, no recourse should anything go wrong.

But I always had a good excuse for not going. The spring snow in Verbier, where I live, was too good to abandon for a week wasted climbing uphill; the weather looked unsettled; avalanche conditions were unstable; I wasn't really in shape.

In retrospect, I was right. The Haute-Route is not a tour to be undertaken lightly. In some seasons, weather and snow stability factors halt even the most hardy expeditions at the first hut. You will never really be in shape. There is only one reason to go: it's there.

Another factor which kept me off the Haute-Route for so long is that, like all downhill skiers, I detest walking uphill on skis. And, again like many of my off-piste skiing colleagues, I despise the generally bearded, backpacking crowd of ski tourers who would rather hike up a slope than ride up in a chairlift.

> "Tourers do it for the hike; skiers do it for the untracked and extreme powder skiing to be found"

This great divide in the skiing world is a matter of some gravity, though incomprehensible to non-skiers who think that anybody who locks his feet on to two narrow planks is insane. But the Haute-Route is the crossover between touring and skiing. Tourers do it for the hike. Skiers do it for the untracked, and extreme, powder skiing to be found nowhere else in May.

What finally got me up there was mountain guide John Hogg's promise of a skier's Haute-Route. Instead of staying up all week at 3,000-4,000 metres, sleeping in spartan mountain huts, we would make serious descents, from 4,200 metres to 1,600 metres in one instance, down to the valley floor and a bath.

In the interests of research I agreed to do two Haute-Routes: the skier's version the first week and the classic foot-slogging tourer's version the second week. This would also settle the vexed question of which direction is more challenging: from Switzerland to France, or from Chamonix to Zermatt. Over the two weeks I covered some 25,000 vertical metres, up and down.

Every hut was different but they were all crowded and shared a spartan lack of basic washing facilities, though there always seemed to be a good supply of wine, even when it had to be delivered by helicopter.

It was too dark to tell exactly how many of us were piled on to the one communal bunk bed that first night in the Britannia hutte above Saas Fee. The noise of turning and tossing, snoring and farting was not conducive to slumber. It was only the next morning that I saw who it was that had been squashing me up against the wall and breathing into my ear all through the sleepless night.

A sense of humour is as indispensable on the Haute-Route as a bottle of extra strength aspirin. My bedside companion's whispered "Will you still respect me?" lightened the pre-dawn gloom. But lack of sleep at high altitude is hard to shake off.

Breakfast consisted of pots of hot water poured over instant coffee and bread rolls of dubious ancestry smeared with pre-packed portions of butter and jam. There was no lingering over breakfast. The Haute-Route is a merciless assault on one's personal powers of organisation. The guide gives you a time to be ready by and when it comes, he goes.

Many huts are perched high above the constantly moving floor of snow, anchored on rock like lighthouses. Cabane Bertol, for example, demanded a descent on iron ladders and snow-slick rock, with only the odd link of chain to hang on to, just to get down to where you cached the skis the night before. Frozen ski touring bindings had to be adjusted for a run downhill before the ritual of gluing on ski skins for uphill work was enacted.

Early morning touring at steep angles, especially across awkward traverses, often calls for ski crampons. These *harscheisen* are metal claws which lift with the foot on the forward slide and then bite deeply into the snow to prevent backsliding.

For the greater part of the Haute-Route, walking uphill is simply a matter of putting one foot in front of the other. But there are spots where climbing techniques become crucial. Ski crampons are useless in soft snow, which can easily build up under the ski skins, seriously hampering progress. Climbing up the Col du Chardonnet from the Argentières glacier near Chamonix, the route is so steep as it passes through narrow passages flanked by crevasses that allowing the skins to slide backwards could be the last movement you ever make. Executing touring kick-turns on very steep slopes, when exhausted anyway, requires the legs of a flamingo and the balance of a ballet dancer.

Ski tourers tend to walk right on the tails of the skier in front. I learned why you shouldn't get too close to touring partners when I looked up at 4,000 metres on the Strahlhorn traverse to see a body hurtling backwards towards me. It was the first time I had been literally bowled over by a young woman.

Just who should and who should not attempt the Haute-Route is difficult to say. I am 44, not at all a fitness fanatic and had never been touring. We had a few experienced tourers aged over 60 and an energetic 18-year-old. We lost one of the fitter members, a Canadian marathon runner, to altitude sickness on the first day.

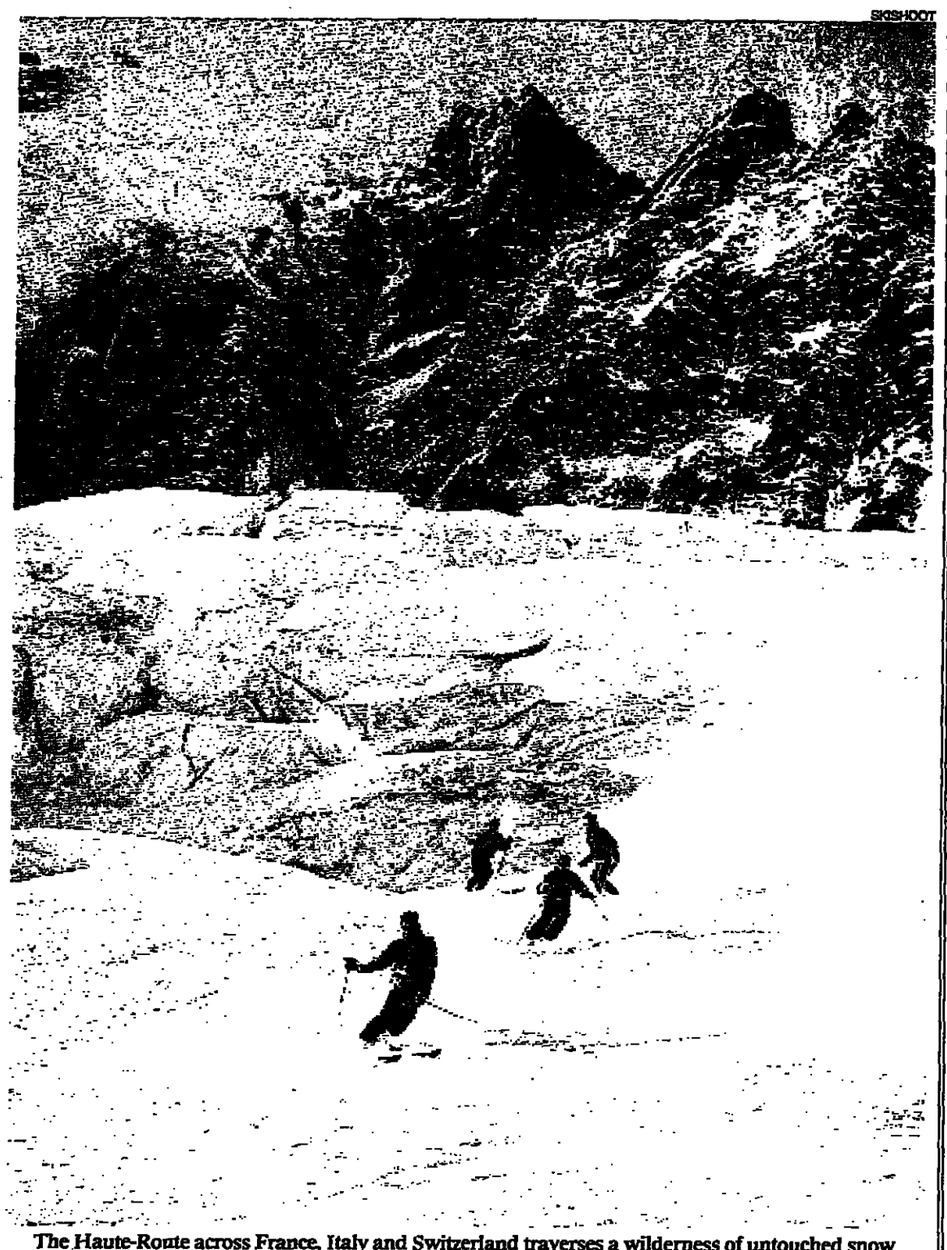
The guide set what seemed a ridiculously slow pace. This was a deliberate calibration, designed to conserve energy for emergencies. We climbed about 300 vertical metres per hour. After a while, we found the guide's pace deeply relaxing.

As a first-time tourer in new boots I had not tied my inner bootlaces tight enough. Sandwich-sized blisters developed underfoot, making squishy sounds with each step. Infection would have been a serious problem. Sunblindness from cheap goggles and dehydration are further hazards. It takes a conscious effort to keep drinking until the urine is, as one handbook says, "clear and copious".

I have to admit that on reaching the 4,000-plus metre summits of the Breithorn and the Strahlhorn my feelings were much the same as when we reached lesser summits: relief rather than exhilaration. What made the effort more than worthwhile was the happy chance of hitting thigh-deep fresh powder at those altitudes in mid-May.

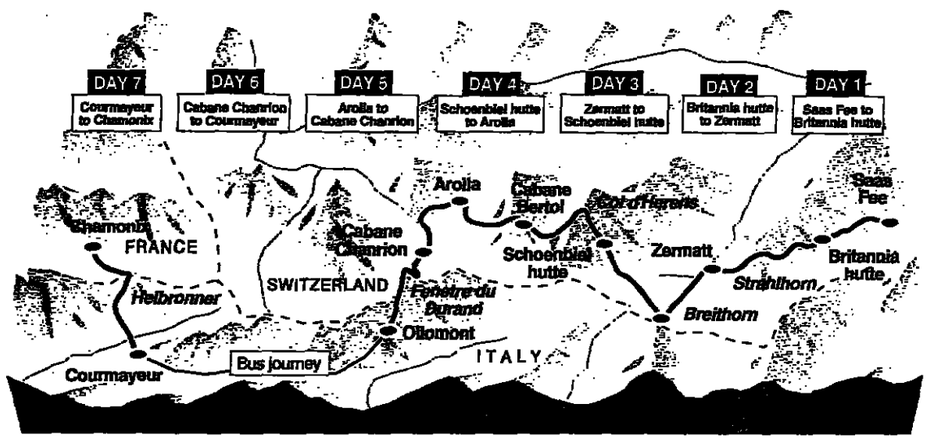
Up there the distinction between hard-core skier and hard-heeled tourer is effaced. It does not matter if you are travelling from east to west or west to east. The best skiing and the worst climbs can come at any time, anywhere, depending on the weather and what side-routes the guide selects.

It was on a dreaded uphill leg during the second week that I began to feel I could stay up there forever. I will never forget the laser show of sheet lightning at 3am, when the call of nature tempted me out across the narrow, icy parapet running out from Cabane des Vignettes to the open hole "toilet" carved out of solid rock. Or the smell of burning skin as we trudged up an endless ice field to the summit of Pigne d'Arolla, sun and snow merged into one white glare. Or the sudden swirl of biting hail which blinded us just as we arrived at a maze of crevasses above Zermatt... I don't know, I might try it again.



SKISHOOT

The Haute-Route across France, Italy and Switzerland traverses a wilderness of untouched snow



WHERE TO FIND LATE SKIING

The attractions of sun, powder snow and rock bottom prices

Skiing late in the season, when admittedly the lower pistes can lose their snow cover, is the time for rock bottom prices. The Alps have been getting some of their best snowfalls in March and April, at least for the past ten years.

Lizzie Norton, of Ski Solutions, the skier advisory service, says it is too early yet for tour operators to announce their late offers. But Susi Johnston, of Alpine Answers, an independent service with no ties to any tour operator, predicts chalet holiday prices in the £250 range for the weeks beginning April 9 and April 16. But such attractive late offers, especially in top resorts such as Verbier and Zermatt, are usually not available until the last minute.

Despite the image of log fires and crunchy snow, many experienced skiers would agree that March and April offer the most attractive skiing of the year. April showers bring powder snow to high resorts. Skiers in Verbier, Chamonix and Val d'Isère, for example, talk of skiing knee-deep powder snow at levels above 3,000 metres late into April, and on the Vallée Blanche in Chamonix right through May. High altitude, preferably with slopes facing north and couloirs protected from the wind, is the main thing to look for in selecting a spring resort with good powder possibilities.

Powder snow, deep and light, is all winter skiers ever talk about. But there is another kind of snow, even more sensuous and satisfying to ski, which the vast majority of holiday skiers have never encountered because they are not out in the mountains when this transformation of the snowpack occurs. "Spring snow" or what Americans call "corn snow" is what happens when the distinct layers normally present in the snow undergo a process of melting and reforming. The result is a uniform temperature and uniform consistency of the snow from the surface to ground level.

Since this transformation occurs only after days of very high temperatures and very cold, clear nights it is generally confined to March and April. Spring snow appears as a solid crust. Unlike a crust, however, the homogeneous snowpack collapses in upon itself and reforms a surface free of ruts and consistent in texture.

To come out on a spring morning to a south-facing slope which has been transformed is to experience a kind of skiing which is freer of friction and more exhilarating than the deepest powder snow in the depths of mid-winter. Because the skis sink in only a fraction of an inch gliding is effortless and turns are with a security and precision the ordinary skier would never have dreamed themselves capable of.

Spring snow is not something one can arrange. The phenomenon occurs where and when conditions are right. But for the best range of skiing late in March and April, only resorts near or above 3,000 metres should be considered.

Travel details

The skiing resorts with the best late snow are Chamonix and Tignes in France; Zermatt, Andermatt and Saas Fee in Switzerland; Obertauern and Ischgl in Austria; and Cervinia in Italy. Killington and Mammoth in the United States regularly stay open until June.

● In Chamonix, Collineige Ski (30-32 High Street, Frimley, Surrey, GU16 5JD; tel 0276 24262, fax 0276 27282) offers April chalet weeks from £539, including ski guide to the Vallée Blanche. Ski Solutions (071-602 9900) has Skiworld self-catered flats in Val Thorens from £189 for the week of April 16 and chalet parties in Val d'Isère for April 23 from £227, with one free holiday per group of eight.

● Crystal (081-399 5144) offers Alpe d'Huez from £199 on April 17 and Tignes from £269 on April 16. Its North American schedule includes Whistler for two weeks from £699, Breckenridge and Vail in April for £649 per fortnight, with bonus ski pass reductions of up to 30 per cent.

● Ski Scott Dunn (081-767 0202) offers its last ten days in Jackson Hole, from 24 March, for £675 and helicopter skiing weeks at Mike Wiegele's 3,000 square mile ranch in Canada for £2,779 until the end of April.

How to prepare for the long, challenging trek

TOURS of the Haute-Route can usually be undertaken from March until early June. The course is unforgiving on equipment and the mountain guide I went with, John Hogg, makes very specific recommendations. He will provide avalanche transceivers and can arrange rental of Swiss hand-made Streule touring skis with Montana touring skins and Fritschi touring bindings (including ski crampons). Leki avalanche probe adjustable ski poles are also available.

Some skiers use their downhill ski boots, heavier than touring boots but giving more support for downhill skiing. Hogg recommends the Raichle Concordia touring boot, with Vibram soles for rock climbs.

You not only have to carry everything you need for the week up the mountains, you have to ski with it too. Hogg recommends, and rents, rucksacks specially reinforced for skiing made by Berghaus, Britain's mountaineering outfitters. You must also take a full body harness, crampons to fit skiboots, metal water bottle, spare gloves, goggles and/or glacier glasses, hat and sun screen. An ice axe is not necessary.

You will want to take ski wax for flat glaciers, aspirin, medicaments for blisters, a miner's style Petzi headlamp for pre-dawn climbs and mid-night excursions to the lavatory and a camera. Chocolates and bottled drinks are sold in the huts but it is advisable to bring some provisions, such as dried meats, hard bread and nuts. Energy tablets are not recommended as they can result in sudden weakness at high altitudes.

Helicopter rescue insurance can be arranged by the guide. The hotel/hut and guiding package costs about £500for the week.

Choosing a mountain guide is a matter of personality as well as trust, since you spend as full week on the route and in the huts together. My favourite guide in the Alps is Canadian-born Hogg, who has lived in Andermatt, Switzerland, for the past 12 years. He is one of the few guides in the Alps who furnishes each client with the inflatable air balloon ABS skiing rucksack, a literal lifesaver in avalanches. (Box 106, 6490 Andermatt, Switzerland; tel 010 41 44 683 53, fax 010 41 44 682 43)

Most experienced on the Haute-Route are Chamonix's Compagnie des Guides, the world's oldest and best mountain guide association. Make sure you get a guide who speaks English. My choice would be Jean-Marie Oliani. (For a brochure outlining Compagnie des Guides trips, contact Collineige Ski, Lifestyle Buildings, 30-32 High Street, Frimley, Surrey, GU16 5JD; tel 0276 24262, fax 0276 27282.)

Roland Stieger is an independent, fully certified mountain guide in Chamonix, who speaks excellent English and is a deep well of patience and inspiration for beginners (Route de Taconnaz, 74310 Les Houches, France; 010 33 50 54 43 53).

The Eagle Ski Club organises annual Haute-Route expeditions for beginners and experts alike using the best available local guides and features ski touring trips all over the world (Peter Wallis, 22 Flask Walk, London NW3 1HE; 071-794 9341).

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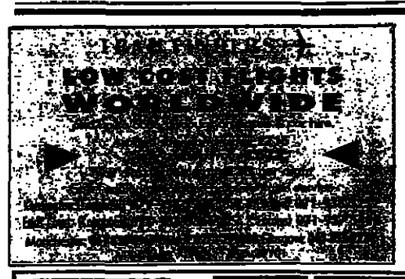
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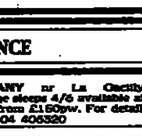
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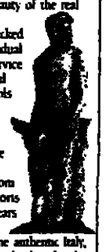
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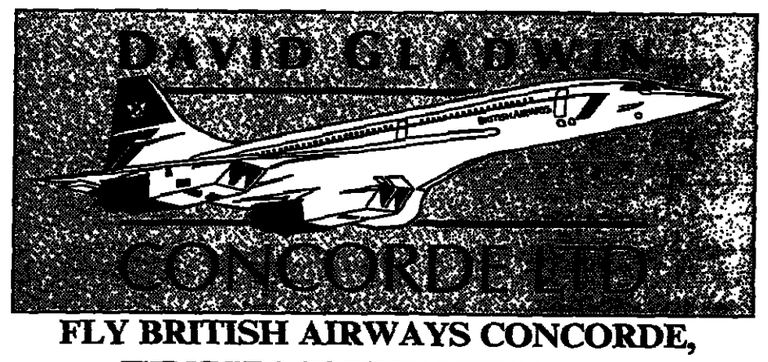
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ATTRACTIVE humorous romantic down to earth lady 58, seeking successful business man for permanent relationship. Integrity, reliability, humour and generosity essential. Surrey. Please Reply to Box No 6296

ATTRACTIVE successful lady early 50's 5'4", fit, slim, solvent and sympathetic living in south Cheshire seeks unattached male for mutual support & companionship. Reply to Box No 6224

ATTRACTIVE woman graduate 39 interested in the arts and nature seeks soulmate for mutual love and sharing and possibly children soon! Photo appreciated. Hants.Box No 6266

ATTRACTIVE prof lady 36 seeks establishment man 36-50 for lasting relationship. Interests inc travel, politics, country walks, socialising. OSOH a must. Reply to Box No 6320

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ETERNAL optimist living in East Anglia awaiting her knight! I am a slim blonde 5'4" 47yrs old who enjoys reading music travel and red wine, Photo please. Reply to Box No 6289

EXTREMELY attractive slim professional female Sussex /London based would like to meet Jewish male 50-60 with high standards who enjoys intelligent and witty repartee inte: music theatre travel and fun. Togetherness Warmth affection and laughter essential ingredients. Reply Box No 6296

FANTASY tall shapely blonde 29 with certain goals (do you not like that?) seeks striking man. Aged 35-45 need I say more? Photo/tel no.Box No 6285

FELICITOUS widow seeks fellow 40-50's to fulfil her fantasies and be her friend for now or forever. Photo pls to Box 6242

FEMALE 1938 not seeks bolt with a view to engineering a permanent relationship for two. I'm Brighstonian widow graduate 5ft 6 have wide interests. Nanaks aweigh yet Please Reply to Box No 6249

FEMININE stylish professional lady residing in Lincs/Notts considered very attractive tall slim blond(e), sincere amusing and romantic, seeks associate similar secure discerning gentleman with a zest for enjoying life. Don't leave the future to destiny - come share my dreams and realities in the pursuit of happiness. Please Reply to Box No 6245

GAME golf or to enjoy life? Attractive caring educated lady 42 seeks partner. Photo & letter please to Box No 6314

GLOUCESTERSHIRE, intelligent articulate lady values family life integrity loyalty and simple pleasures inc countryside walking reading home music garden fun laughter the warmth of good friends, seeks friends and possibly partner to share the future. Box No 6243

HAPPY independent Malaysian professional lady, 40's. Loves life in Zurich but misses someone to enjoy the good things in life with - sailing, theatre, cinema, sport - in fact everything! Write with photo to Box No 6263

HAVE time need ideas. Sensible or outrageous, honourable or wicked proposals sought. Elegant educated continental lady 45. Reply to Box No 6000

I don't want the world, wealth, or an Adonis. I want a tall caring fun loving man who will make a tall slim blonde 43 yr old prof lady happy. London. Photo Please to Box No 6286

MEET Attractive, sexy women, at London Single's parties. Meet 'N' Eat 071 629 5634

IF you don't want a good-looking, educated, vivacious, easy going, country loving business lady (then please don't write with photograph unless similar aged 30 to 50. Box No 6177

I'M 37 Bright, and bubbly (or so people say). I totally love the outdoors, walking, birdwatching, most sports (except blood sports), and travel to the unusual parts of the world, to experience life rather than waste it lying around on beaches, although the high life is not above me. You have to love all these things and be secure in your own life. I am London based. If you want to know more you'll just have to write. Box No 6358 with photo.

INTELLIGENT independent good-looking slim divorced country woman 56 & 5'6" craves company of kind well-balanced well-educated man to put zest back into life. Loves walking gardening radio music and reading in Ivy log fire Herts /Sussex. Reply to Box No 6299

I would like to share my life again. Sparkling, unconventional, intelligent, articulate, warm, amusing female, slim, 5'4", attractive, GSOH, many interests inc. music, politics, travel, gardening, etc.) would like to meet a man (45-60) with whom to laugh and sharing, without competitiveness, a man secure both financially and in himself, someone still curious about new ideas. London/SE pref. Plse Reply with photo to Box No 6376

LADY 60's very active enjoys most things and would like to meet a gentleman. London/S East.Box No 6166

LADY with style and elegance slender graceful attractive blonde seeks charming successful professional man 50+ who is looking for a very special person to love. Reply to Box No 6268

LILLEHAMMER Couch Potato '55' with Alberto Tomba out of reach seeks 2nd best 80+ someone who enjoys sport, golf, country life, music/arts and travel. Confidentiality assured. Please Reply to Box No 6334

LOVELY attractive lady with wide range of interests desires caring sincere n/s prof gent 35-50 with view to lasting and fun long-term relationship and possible family. Photo please. Reply to Box No 6391

MISS RIGHT is waiting if you are a very successful gent seeking a very goodlooking 50's lady for a permanent relationship. Photo please. Mayfair based. Reply to Box No 6332

OPTIMISTIC Gemini. Graduate divorcee. Independent. 45. S.W. London. Own home. One son 16. Theatre, opera, dance, art, food, skiing, travel. Seeks good male company. Please Reply to Box No 6176

PROFESSIONAL vivacious career lady seeks tall educated stimulating n/s gentleman with sound financial portfolio to share Champagne sparkle together. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6336

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LADIES

REALLY nice chap wanted 36-45 for good laugh, friendship and hopefully more Attractive blonde has great friends but missing someone special. W.London based. Photo. Please Reply to Box No 6256

REAL Men extinct in Essex? Vivacious colchester lady early 40 seeks lively intelligent man 40-50 for Furnship +? Please Reply to Box No 6260

ROBERT BROWNING wrote "Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be!" Slim attractive lady 50 seeks prof. gentleman. OSOH. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 6386

SERIOUSLY attractive London lady, early 40's, public school, wishes to meet equivalent professional man 45-55. Interests: Scottish dancing, riding, swimming, music and the arts. Reply to box No 6344

SEXY petite blonde grad seeks a successful, wealthy bus. for overseas travel and/or romance Discretion guaranteed. Reply to Box No 6327

SHAPELY feminine warm caring lady, 36ish, professional 40's n/S man of integrity for long term romance & mutual appreciation! Reply box no 6388

SHY pretty lady 32 5'4" tall slender with fair hair n/s seeks tall conversative guy please write photograph appreciated Wilts /Glos area.Reply to Box No 6351

SINGLE lady 36 attractive. GSOH. Wishes to meet an older distinguished gentleman for long-term relationship. Hopefully we will both enjoy the theatre, candlelit dinners, countryside walks and quiet times together. Reply to Box No 6362

SLEEPLESS in St. Albans. Sensual, sophisticated, sincere, sociable, solvent 53 N/S seeks male partner 45-58 for lots of T.L.C. Must have GSH, be articulate, romantic, loyal. For travel, theatre & who knows what. Please Reply to Box No 6310

SPARKLING attractive educated 31 year old female, loves fresh air, dogs, antiques & adventure Seeks similar male 30-40ish. Please Reply to Box No 6384

SPECIAL OFFER N/S solvent sensual professional female 43 yrs. willing to exercise her feminine offers of affection, chivalry, integrity and wit. Interests in creature comforts, arts, people and travel are distinct advantages. Integrity guaranteed. Please Reply to Box No 6240

STRIKING dark-haired lady, slim, feminine, caring, educated, young forties, seeks sincere, attractive, successful, prof /business man, Warks /Midlands Photo please Box 6228

STUNNING blond, mid 30's, seeks man for fun, friendship and romance. London.Please Reply to Box No 6294

TALL attractive vivacious independent brunette in needs, into both country sports & city life, hunting good looking gentleman counterpart, OSOH essential. 38 - 45. Reply to Box No 6317

THIS warmhearted and sparkling University Lecturer is seeking a man who is 48+: of integrity, tender, assertive, well-educated, practical, fun and un-poor. No photos please. Reply to Box No 6302

TWO absolutely stunning, intelligent, very fit females (31 and 30) who love to party are looking for male counterparts! Up to the challenge? Letters and photos to: Box No 6349

VERY attractive lady likes country, languages, films, home, GSOH, seeks similar gentleman 38/45, London. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 6359

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GENTLEMEN

CAMBRIDGE. Unsophisticated antipodean business man 49 tall fit GSOH wide range of interests seeks intelligent professional woman. Photo Please reply to Box No 6272

CAMBRIDGE. Unsophisticated antipodean business man 49 tall fit GSOH wide range of interests seeks intelligent professional woman Photo Please reply to Box No 6272

CARING sporty London 34 year old seeks genuine lady for romance and maybe more. Photo not needed as character considered more important. Please Reply to Box No 6267

CHEERFUL civilised middle-aged rec-cycled bachelor with small comfortable house in Wimbledon seeks to meet happy soul with a home somewhere warm/interesting for exchange visits - mutual advantage. Please Reply to Box No 6145

COAST: Still looking for a slim lifestyle sensual lady who may want a permanent relationship with a fortyish businessman or who may want to share one day? Must be exceptional. I am. Long letter and good (returnable) photo essential. All letters answered Substantial rewards for successful candidates. Please Reply to Box No 6333

COMPANY Director solvent 43 (looks much younger!) not unattractive seeks attractive unattached female in stirrups who would not normally reply to such an ad (Midlands). Please Reply to Box No 6321

COUNTRYMAN tall fit active n/s 45 loves walks and quiet happy lady prob a widow & very solvent who seeks help in large garden/estate n/s/or commuter in semi garden museum concert visits etc. Photo please to Box No 6326

CULTURED Anglo-American gentle man living U.S. and travelling the world but shy and lonely seeks attractive oriental girl to share caring and romantic relationship with style, including fine dining, sophisticated luxury and exotic travel Write with photo please to Box No 5971

DOCTOR early 50's living in S W. London with wide social and cultural interests seeks intelligent professional lady between 38-50. Please Reply to Box No 6079

EDUCATED well bred & well spoken county lady (30/50) please respond to fun loving dependable widower (very early 50's) with outdoor interests. Photo essential confidentiality assured.Box No 6319

ENGLISH Gentleman 44 5'11" tall single very attractive honest and wealthy. A lover of good food, wine and the arts who is a very feminine and younger soulmate with GSOH for the above country pursuits & possibly marriage. Box No 6073

EXCEPTIONAL CATCH!!! Devastatingly lubricious handsome charismatic tall London banker 40 is trawling the seas for a stunning warm exceptional n/s mermaid 30's. Photo please. Reply to Box No 6340

GOOD-LOOKING good-natured romantic professional man 40 interested in languages, travel, arts, seeks slim attractive lady under 38 for caring relationship. Reply to Box No 6338

HANDSOME surveyor 5'11" fit young 43 good S.O.H. Warm caring well travelled seeks romance. London area. Please Reply to Box No 6341

HAPPY, well-adjusted, prof. male, 41, fond of travel, n/s slim & fit seeks Christian girl to make life complete. East Anglia/East Midlands area preferred. Box No 6367

I am a terrific happy successful 58yr old with GSOH & some say attractive. You need to be 40-50 n/s shapely attractive with integrity & homely feel. London photo plse Box 6293

IF you are female fit slim n/s under 48 and prefer older men, please contact this very fit slim under 50 male and put a smile on his face. London/Surrey. Photo appreciated.Box No 6258

I would love to marry again if I could find a kind caring attractive female under 38 who takes a pride in their life. A Hunts based male 42, professional, fit, medium build would like to meet you. Very discreet. Photos exchanged or lets talk on telephone first. Reply Box 6373

KIND caring sincere articulate single slim and fit man 38 m loves the arts enjoys singing travel skiing sailing and dining seeks genuine lady for fun and romance London/Essex Please Reply to Box No 6211

KIND healthy blue eyed 70, seeks kind swinger lady to share his labrador & Golf & lovely Surrey home & garden. Hope for early love & marriage & children Reply with photo Box 6329

KIND, sensitive and very solvent man in his mid forties seeks intelligent lady to explore lifes joys with. East Midlands/East Anglia. Reply to Box No 6257

LIFE has lots to offer May I show you? Company Exec, widower, romantic, positive + adventurous, loyal, 50+ Left Int'l Rat Race, now has own Co Seeks articulate, n/s, tactile, responsive, solvent, lady, 37 - 50, with open mind, integrity, and desire to share the beauty of a caring relationship. Photo please. Box No 6250

LONDON based man, 62, seeks slim, pretty woman. Please Reply to Box No 6357

LOOKING for a new start? Me too. Bachelor early 40's. Warm sincere & affectionate likes bad mintton, walks, cinema, country lation. Seeks natural, affectionate lady to share life adventures. Box No 6117

LOOKING for a real man? Hand some prof. male 30's. Slim, sporty, graceful, loves fun loving female with GSOH to share life Based Nr Oxford Reply with photo plse Box 6179

MANAGING DIRECTOR 39 single attractive G.S.O.H. seeks attractive honest loyal female who enjoys laughing country pubs holidays theatre etc Midlands based. Photo please. Box No 6151

NICE looking tall man 48: affectionate, civilised, relaxed and good humoured, seeks slim, curvy, sensual woman to love N. London. Reply to Box No 6180

NORTH-WEST single Italian gentleman 41 6"3", Happy and solvent, enjoys good company seeks well educated caring lady preferably single without children. Photo please Box No 6207

OUTGOING successful Warwickshire man, 33, tall, slim, attractive well groomed seeks good-looking slim woman of character under 35, must be intelligent and love terrace dining. Please Reply to Box No 6306

OXBRIDGE Engineer, early 40s, tall, salmon fishing, skiing living East Midlands seeks intelligent, witty, loving lady 50/55. Reply to Box No 6313

PROFESSIONAL, very personable, presentable, single engineer 6'1" slim, recently divorced, sensitive, open minded fun-loving romantic extremely adaptable easy going honest with high morals very trustworthy dependable & reliable tied up at staying in England) GSOH. Wishing to meet like-minded easy going tall blonde blue-eyed fit lady to start and share enriched quality of life. Not forgetting the basic values. Photo appreciated. All replies answered courteously and photos returned. Lets party. Please Reply to Box No 6360

PROFESSIONAL gentleman 50's seeks non-smoking lady 30-40's to accompany him on a prolonged motoring holiday through Spain and France, April-May (and the future who knows!) All expenses paid. Photo appreciated. Please reply to Box No 6196

PROFESSIONAL Indian business man, 52 living in Paris would like to meet slim woman 45 for friendship and enjoyment and travelling for the fine things of life. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6390

PROFESSIONAL male lives Bucks works Cent. London mid 40's n/s likes dining theatre walking seeks slim female to enjoy life together Box 6172

PROF GENT 33 likes sport, music and travel. GSOH and good job seeks like minded lady for fun and good times. Please Reply to Box No 6383

SATURDAY RENDEVOUS

GENTLEMEN

ROMANTIC Lady early 50's warm personality loves life music walking and much more seeks n/s caring intelligent soulmate for friendship or maybe more. Photo appreciated Please Reply to Box No 6332

SENSITIVE and sensual but sensible solicitor seeks kind pusle to share good times in London and country. Send photo please to Box No 6234

SPRING stirs as does my wish to meet a romantic musical n/s woman in Cambs region I'm 50 professional, divorced. Please Reply to Box No 6387

"SR is the place to meet witty charming intelligent people" So prove them right! I'm male mid 40's well educated, company director with good sense of humour & looking for the right person (female) aged 25-40 for keeps Please Reply to Box No 6324

SURREY Executive 47 yrs, wine caring, Capricorn personality, likes tennis, travel, seeks compatible lady with warm smile, laughing eyes for sincere romance Box No 6370

TALL, personable, happy and easy-going professional, late 40's interests include people, travel, country walks, golf and home Seeking lasting relationship with tall, honest big-mind ed lady, 40-50. Central Dales/ Herts area Reply Box No 6239

TALL 41 year old successful male hedonist, seeks attractive independently financed female companion to share luxury European Spring Tour Reply Box No 6389

VERY good looking graduate 42, black hair, blue eyes, runs his own highly successful company. Cannot seem to meet that special female You will be outstandingly attractive, sexy and sophisticated You probably never reply to adverts like this Make this your first time and you won't be disappointed. Photo essential. Reply to box no 6386

VERY good looking 5'9" successful M.D. 50 romantic caring thoughtful and humorous likes Worc country-side enjoys good music and many activities Well travelled looking for a very special lender lady 35-45 retired extra good looking and stylish Please genuine reply with recent photo Box no 6285

VERY NICE man, 45, educated, lots of fun, loves life and would love it even more if he could find an attractive, sophisticated girl in her mid thirties to share it with Photograph please Please Reply to Box No 6315

WIMBLEDON based world traveled nice guy young hearted 42 5'10" tight 11 stone, even open minded fun-loving romantic extremely adaptable easy going honest with high morals very trustworthy dependable & reliable tied up at staying in England) GSOH. Wishing to meet like-minded easy going tall blonde blue-eyed fit lady to start and share enriched quality of life. Not forgetting the basic values. Photo appreciated. All replies answered courteously and photos returned. Lets party. Please Reply to Box No 6360

YOUNG late 50's 6' n/s solvent retired widower, seeks widow for winters in the sun, golf, fun, hopefully romance please. All replies answered. Photo Please Reply to Box No 6335

YOUTHFUL in body and spirit mid fifties with ability and firm thoughts retirement 2/3 yrs not professional but varied tastes and interests. Unfettered Christian outlook expects nothing but lives in full hopes - desires reasonable pleasant committed partner for fulltime future Please respond brief background to progress further. Please Reply to Box No 6323

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If you chose to send a photograph we would suggest enclosing a stamped addressed envelope and indicate if you wish the photograph to be returned.

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CHESS

by Raymond Keene

CHESS, like music and mathematics, has the power to produce prodigies, both male and female. It has recently been demonstrated, in joint work by Dr Frances Rauscher and Professor Gordon Shaw, of the Physics Department of the University of California, that listening to Mozart may, in fact, increase one's IQ.

The two academics came across this remarkable discovery by carrying out tests on students who were playing chess. They learnt that the students' brainwaves appeared to be making music. Their natural brain patterns, registered on encephalographic screens, strongly resembled musical patterns.

This extraordinary observation persuaded them to carry out the following further test. The students were asked to complete spatial tasks, involving abstract reasoning. Dr Rauscher and Professor Shaw set up three alternative pre-test environments for the students. These were silence, relaxation and listening to Mozart. The intriguing outcome was that the students consistently turned in substantially improved performance after listening to Mozart's music with its structural and harmonic complexity.

Mozart was chosen because he had started composing so young, performing in public at the age of six and writing a symphony by the age of eight. It was considered that there might be a natural harmony to his musical style. Indeed, the UCLA tests seemed to indicate that there is a powerful causal relationship between music and abstract reasoning, that music can assist with the exercise of all higher order brain functions, which include playing chess, mathematics and learning a language.

Chess is famous for its prodigies, including Paul Morphy, Jose Capablanca, Sammy Reshevsky and Bobby Fischer. What seems remarkable, amongst these young high achievers, is that absence of experience does little to impair their ability to create at the board. If the right kind of music can assist with the exercise of higher order brain functions, and given that this conclusion was reached by observations on students playing chess, it seems likely that the reverse also holds, that chess can also help to train the mind.

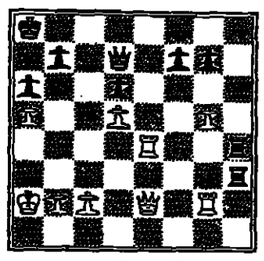
Certainly, those young players who have both exhibited prodigious chess talent, and been given excellent opportunities for education, such as Morphy, Capablanca, Judit Polgar and Garry Kasparov, have displayed a formidable mastery of languages, history, mathematics and science.

Here are three examples of the practical brilliance which has been displayed by chess prodigies.

POSITION 1

White: Tisdall — Black: Polgar
Reykjavik 1988

(see diagram at top of next column)



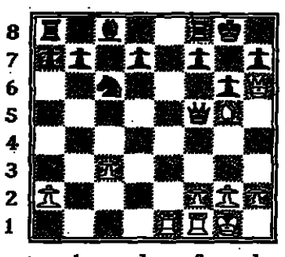
Here 11-year-old Polgar, within four years to break Fischer's long-standing record for becoming the world's youngest grandmaster, annihilates her experienced opponent, one of Norway's leading masters, with a shocking queen sacrifice. Polgar, Black to play proceeded:

1 . . . Qa4+! 2 Rxa4 Rxa4+
3 Kb1 Rh1+ 4 Rg1 Rxg1+
5 Qd1 Rxd1 checkmate

In fact, a stunned Tisdall resigned immediately after 1 . . . Qa4+

POSITION 2

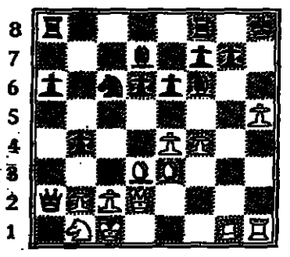
White: Polgar - Black: Angelova
Thessaloniki 1988



1 Qxd8+! Kxd8 2 Bh6+ Kg8
3 Re8 checkmate

POSITION 3

White: McShane
Black: Smallbone
County Match 1993



The third extract shows Britain's own chess prodigy, ten-year-old Luke McShane, in action. Playing with the white pieces Luke opened his attack with:

23 e5 dxe5 24 Rg6 exd4

If Black accepts the sacrifice with 24 . . . hxg6 then 25 hxg6+ Kg8 26 Rh8+ Kxh8 27 Qh2+ Bh4 28 Qxh4+ Kg8 29 Qh7 checkmate.

25 Rxd8 gxf6 26 Bd4 e5
27 Qxd4 Black resigns

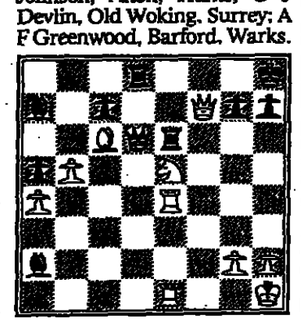
For if 27 . . . exf4 28 Bxf6+ Kg8 29 Rg1 checkmate.

Today's position is from the game Blatny - Malaniuk, Pardubice 1993. White's next move forced a quick checkmate. What was it?

Send your answer on a postcard to: *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine book. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Solution to last Saturday's competition: 1 Qxf6

Last week's winners are: N Johnson, Alton, Hants; G J Devlin, Old Woking, Surrey; A F Greenwood, Barford, Warks.



BRIDGE

by Albert Dormer

DO WOMEN, as is widely supposed, bid less boldly than men? Problem 2 of the Christmas competition marked off the cautious bidders from the more dashing spirits, so an analysis by gender might tell us something.

S	N
1♠	3♠
?	

South holds:

♠A-J-9-7-6-4 ♥— ♦K-J-9-6 ♣A-10-3

The great majority of readers — rightly, in my view — favoured slam action of one kind or another, but there were 155 votes for 4♠. This is a sign-off and seems too unambitious with such a promising shape. But how were these votes divided between men and women?

In fact there was no disproportion. Women were represented in the ranks of the 4♠ bidders in just the same degree as in the total entry.

So, should other gender-related preconceptions be re-examined? Men have long believed that they can analyse the play of difficult hands better than women. And indeed, most researchers accept male superiority in mathematical reasoning, which is in some ways related: the only uncertainty in their view is the possible physiological basis for it.

But there are signs that women are closing on men in this ability.



A moment of revelation during a bridge tournament

Moreover, it is in countries where female emancipation is farthest advanced that the trend is most evident. Insofar as conditioning is a cause of differential performance, this must be significant.

At international level women have collected a string of press awards for well-played hands. In the 1991 world finals, the palm went to an American, Lynn Deas, for a beautifully played grand slam, recorded in this column at the time. In the next such event the deal that caught the judge's eye was less difficult but it was played correctly by only one male, Eric Rodwell, and one female, Kerri Shuman. Try your hand at it.

	♠K943 ♥K952 ♦A83 ♣108	
♠Q5 ♥J1063 ♦KQ64 ♣K76	N W E S	♠87 ♥8 ♦J1095 ♣AJ9543
	♠AJ1082 ♥AQ74 ♦72 ♣Q2	

The contract is 4♠ and West leads the ♦K. What do you do — and why? Suppose that you allow the king to hold, which is the right thing to do, as you hope for a continuation. Sure enough, East encourages and West duly plays a second diamond. You win and draw trumps in two rounds. What now?

The best chance of overcoming a 4-1 heart break is to ruff the remaining diamond, play off the ♥A, and exit with a club. The defenders can cash two club tricks but, as the cards lie, if East is left on lead he has to play a club or a diamond, allowing South to ruff in one hand and throw a heart from the other hand. If West is left on lead he can play a heart, but only at the cost of a trick.

At the recent European championships the press award went to Liz McGowan of Edinburgh, who was South in this deal:
Dealer South. Neither side vul.

	♠A103 ♥Q104 ♦A653 ♣A54	
♠KQJ872 ♥J873 ♦109 ♣7	N W E S	♠9854 ♥— ♦Q8742 ♣KQJ9
	♠— ♥AK9852 ♦KJ ♣108632	

W	N	E	S
			1♥
2♠(1)	Dble (2)	4♠	5♣
No	6♥	All pass	

Opening lead: ♠K
(1) Weak. (2) General strength.

East hoped, not unreasonably, that her clubs might be worth two defensive tricks, so she did not save in 6♠. McGowan ruffed the spade lead and cashed the ♥K, East showing out. This was not bad news. South could count on only 11 tricks, even if she could finesse successfully in diamonds, but if West had ten cards in the major suits, there could well be a squeeze against East in the minors.

McGowan finessed the ♥10, played off the ♥Q and cashed the ♠A, throwing a club. She entered her hand by finessing the ♦J and cashed a trump, leaving this:

	♠10 ♥— ♦A65 ♣A5	
♠QJ87 ♥— ♦10 ♣7	N W E S	♠— ♥— ♦Q87 ♣KQJ
	♠— ♥5 ♦K ♣10863	

The ♥5 was led and the ♠10 discarded. If East threw a diamond, dummy's diamonds would be good, so she parted with a club. Now South played ace and another club and made the balance.

All three of the deals that won awards for women were first reported by Barry Rigal in the championship daily bulletin.

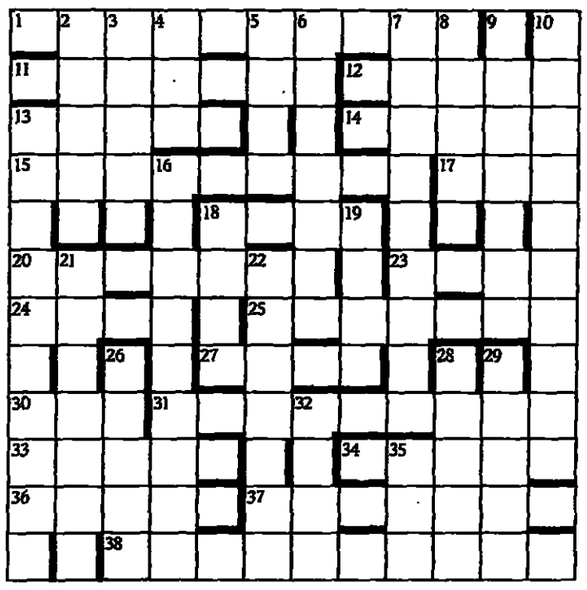
THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No. 3243: Wrong Number by Ix

IN EACH clue, one word is an indication of the word to be entered at the number. When this is deleted, there remains a normal clue to a word to be entered at a number to be deduced. One phrase does not appear as such in *Chambers*, but this should inconvenience no one.

ACROSS
1. Starting to experiment, brute reversed bacteria plates
11. One with faith in union returned sweetener in Nigerian currency
12. Bachelor bearing one new wine stand
13. Furrows made by gear position — it's out of synch
14. Assistant to get in a bit of spare cash — of this his colleagues are not auditors
15. Unhinged, L-lydia's deities depart from agreement
17. Snakes share last of the drinks
18. Tolerate some low-earning devotee
20. He's going for a plainsman in sacking oriental
23. I crossed the floor, according to Bright — I exhaust adult male clowns
24. Pose struck by yogin when rest are half naff
25. I confine nymphs in fruit for certain gods (two words)
27. Indian devotee, one sore in winter month
30. Hovel to remain without a village beginning to expand
31. Cease being unhappy about practice turns for squadron
33. No time for protuberance witticisms — restraint is needed
34. A stable easterner is, in short, hard to believe
36. South American left station a loner, suffering
37. That's great! Separate thanks for trifle!
38. Settlement required by flotilla admiral

DOWN
2. ABCFGH — recovery demonstrates complication
3. Serpent's head to work serpent yet
4. Without turning pale, holder set to in alcohol
5. See, I'd letter about evil spirit
6. The military post the artillery near new ally — only the leaders show pride
7. However treated, with a bit of luck, a bee kills germs
8. Cobblers undressing privately at first and running round building
9. Family of dam-builder bristles — it keeps him warm
10. Coalfish loses the monkey fur
13. Story the Whig listener finds amusing
16. Topless underling shapes back of head
18. Leather get-up: trip fantastic musical embellishments
19. Society shuns Australian lump — it's benign
21. Pleasure shown by leader of Epsom layers, with the old language going around ring
22. In French building, one eats sprites
26. Lily is improving threefold
28. Wash what's left inactive
29. Having minimal intelligence, dawdle at all events
32. With the stuffing knocked out in explosion, neon gas disperses settled figures
35. Discharged one primate in home.





PRIZES: A book token worth £50 will go to the first correct solution opened.
The two runners-up will each win a £20 book token.
Entries must be received by Thursday, March 17.

ADDRESS: The *Listener* Crossword 3243, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 6HE.

G	L	A	M	P	T	T	H	E	A	C	C
R	U	B	I	A	C	E	A	E	C	A	O
O	V	E	R	S	A	W	R	C	A	R	S
M	W	D	Z	L	L	A	N	E	R	O	S
P	A	W	A	P	A	R	D	A	I	L	G
T	I	R	S	O	N	G	E	B	N	I	R
C	T	O	A	N	T	L	E	A	A	N	T
C	S	U	T	S	A	L	L	L	E	A	H
C	A	S	C	A	R	A	S	A	H	S	I
A	B	A	C	I	T	O	P	D	O	G	S
M	I	N	F	R	U	G	A	L	I	S	T
P	T	T	A	T	A	E	A	E	K	K	A

SOLUTIONS CROSSWORD NO 3240

The puzzle is based on the opening Chorus to *Henry V*: (1) the central four by four arrangement in the grid reads 'pardon gentles all' (line 8); (2) the answers to the four asterisked clues must be entered on the basis of 'and let us *ciphers* to this great accompt' (line 17) ie A=TH; N=IS; D=GR; L=EA; E=TA; T=CC; U=OM; S=PT; (3) the circle indicated in the solution spells out four kinds of wood (LANA, BALSA, RATA, Sal) representing 'this wooden O' (line 13). (To 'exactly' describe it as instructed, the circle can pass through no other squares and therefore passes through the corner points of the central four by four area).

Across: 4 Salt; 17. Algid; 20 Besorting; 23 Tantalean; 24 Scuts; 33 Seel. Down: 1 Dust; 4 Palps; 5 Watergall; 25 Tarantula; 19 Dane; 25 Palas

WINNERS of Listener Crossword 3240: J.R. Beresford of Twyford, Berkshire, won a £50 book token. The £20 book tokens went to D. Frances Milne, of Pilton, Somerset, and N.S. Maxwell, of Prestwich, Manchester.

LISTENER CROSSWORD NO 3243

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

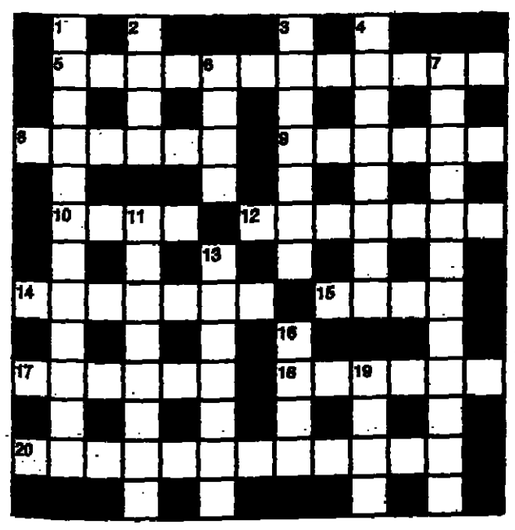
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POSTCODE _____

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 105



ACROSS
5 Insouciantly (12)
8 1/100th rouble (6)
9 Archimedes' cry of discovery (6)
10 Sacred image of saint (4)
12 Protracted (7)
14 Colleague (7)
15 Joke (4)
17 Sunder (6)
18 Line of equal atmospheric pressure (6)
20 Having been kept informed (2,3,7)

DOWN
1 Drunkenness (12)
2 Stake (4)
3 Railbed block (7)
4 Conspiracy (8)
6 Maori/All-Black war-dance (4)
7 How popular items sell (4,3,5)
11 Complete; unqualified (8)
13 Written acknowledgement (of delivery) (7)
16 Element used in brass (4)
19 Composition, esp. musical (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 104

ACROSS: 4 Fat 8 Torpedo 9 Heave 10 Kulak 11 Ticking 12 Reflexes 14 Glue 15 Nice 16 Prisoner 20 Clothes 21 Ingot 23 Acute 24 Nigeria 25 Fit
DOWN: 1 Stoker 2 Ural 3 Heckle 4 For the present 5 Thick 6 Carillon 7 Meagre 13 Factotum 15 Nectar 17 Stingy 18 Ritual 19 Chief 22 Garb

CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: The Times Concise Crosswords — Books 1 & 2 (Special Edition 240 puzzles) £5.74 each, Books 3 & 4 £4.25 each. The Times Jumbo Crosswords — Book 1 £5.25, Book 2 £5.99, Concise Book 1 £5.99. The Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 13 £4.74 each, Books 14 to 16 £4.25 each. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 10 £4.74 each, Book 11 £4.25. Concise Books 1 & 2 £4.25 each. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to *Akom Ltd*, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

Just released from Times Books. The Times Crosswords — Book 17. The Times Concise Crosswords — Book 5. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Book 12. £4.25 each (inc p&p).

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

PREFRACT
a. Breakfast
b. Stubborn
c. A sheer cliff

ROSTRAL
a. Anti-clockwise
b. Having beaks
c. Wild oats

LEMUR
a. A ghost
b. The garden wall
c. A Carthaginian

MATHEMEG
a. A female Wrangler
b. A catfish
c. Crossword with numbers

Answers on page 2

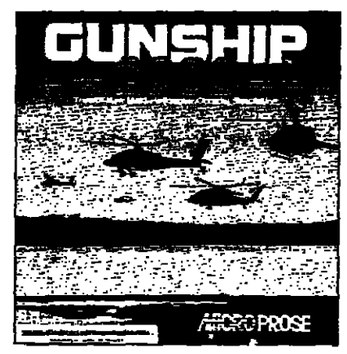
COMPUTER GAMES

Microsoft WHAT A bloodthirsty bunch you are. Exploring the horizons of flight simulators in our Cyberspace Three competition, most entries boasted abilities to wreak havoc on a large scale. One of our winners — each scooping copies of Microsoft's Flight Simulator 5.0 and MS-DOS 6.2 — was Alexander Gordon of Haddenham, Buckinghamshire, who gets his kicks from scenes similar to Dante's *Inferno*.

He chose Tornado, from Digital Integration, as an "ultra-realistic simulator" with an unsurpassable "sweaty-palms factor" eclipsing the venerable but still awesome Falcon 3.

"Initially you will spend a lot of time in the simulator. Here you will be introduced to the flights and weapon systems in a controlled fashion, and your mistakes will not result in unsightly holes in the landscape. While these are no more difficult than the simulator, you are no longer immortal. Eventually, you may feel ready to venture into combat. Be warned, the enemy is usually well-equipped and invariably eager to turn your nice, shiny jet into 20 tons of scrap metal."

Paul Mackie, of Warrington, Cheshire, reviewed Gunship 2000, from Microprose, in which you work your way from Warrant Officer to Brigadier General by flying assignments in seven of the US army's most advanced helicopters. Flying missions, he says, isn't such a lonely business thanks to superb effects supported by Adlib and Roland MT-32 sound cards. "You have the option of digitised speech, so you can listen to your co-pilot giving you information." A joystick, not only appropriate, also proves essential for utmost precision playing.



Oscar Shaw, of Springfield, east London, eyes the skies with commerce and money not combat and mayhem in mind, aboard subLogic's civil flight assignment ATP. "You have a choice of five commercial aircraft, from the default 737 to the 747, the Big Beast." Even the prospect of being thrown off course is a pleasure to Shaw. "The 747 and 767 have Inertial Reference Systems which are terrific to use, and let you know, for example, how far you are from the next Burger King. High crosswinds are always entertaining because there is little opportunity to apply rudder to counter — you just fly off the runway sideways as soon as the wheels leave the ground. It is the equivalent of taking off from Gatwick and finding yourself over IKEA before kicking the rift out." Exactly.

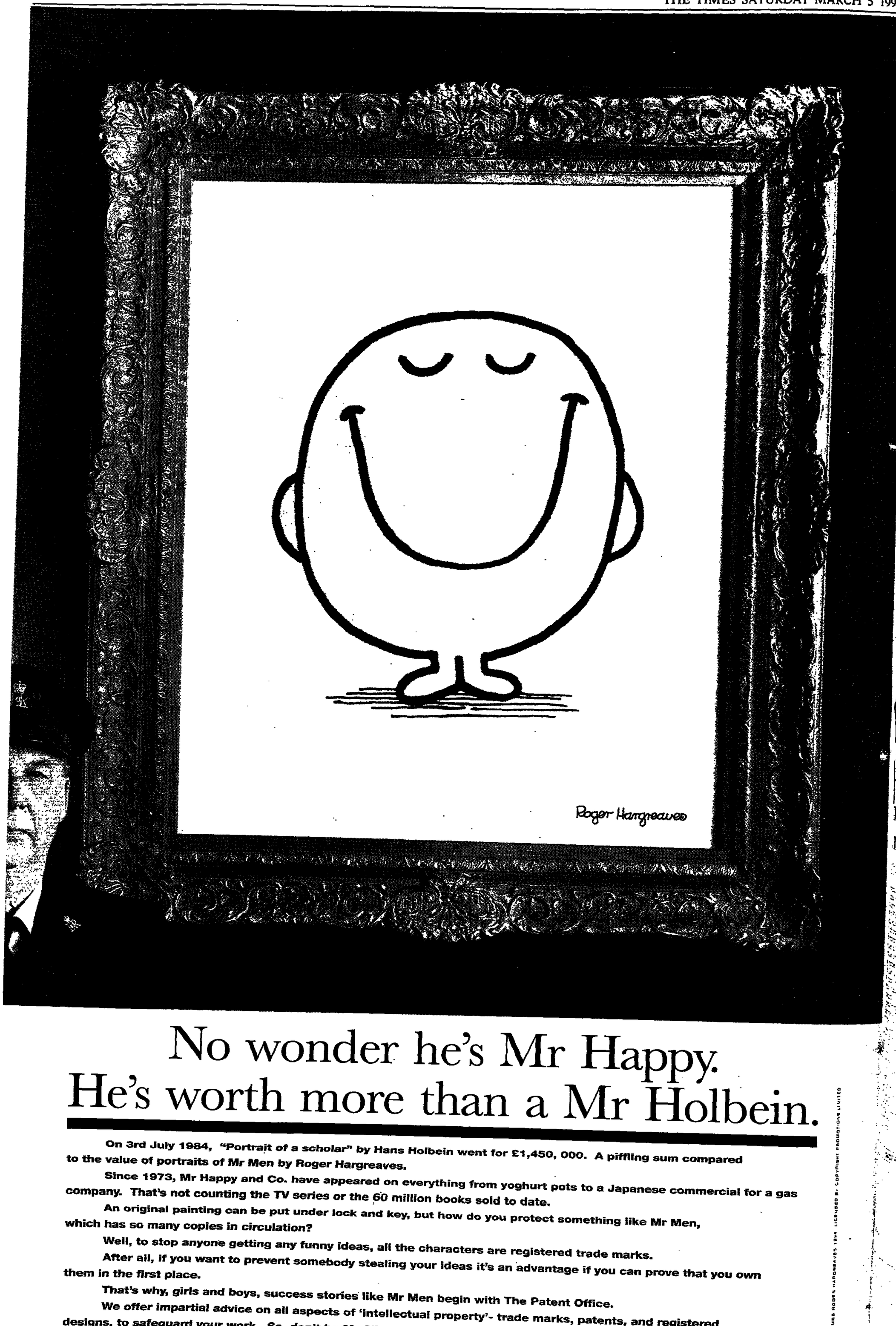
Summing up, he reckons the gameplay "challenges you to complete a flight as smoothly, safely and economically as possible, in real time, and does it well. At the end of your session the overriding feeling is one of achievement, satisfied mental exhaustion, and the desire to rent a video of *Airplane*."

If you'd rather make your own film, Disney's Stunt Island could be the answer. A flight and filming simulator in one, it allows stunts to be performed in one of the 55 'aircraft' available, from Spitfires, F-117A Stealth fighters and MiG-25 Foxbats to a harmless duck. Most flight simulators offer a spotter plane's view of your efforts, but this programme goes several better as cameras can be located anywhere to snatch additional footage of your escapades.

Geoffrey Hinkins of Lincoln enthuses: "You can fly 32 stunts, or make your own using the Set Designer. Then you can edit it and add music, credits, and special effects before watching it in the theatre. It has excellent graphics and sound — even without a sound card."

We'll be looking into games for two or more players in the coming weeks. If you have any recommendations or comments we want to hear from you: Computer Games, Weekend, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

Next week we'll announce details of Cyberspace Four and we will in part ask entrants to nominate and review the world's worst computer game. Fasten your safety belts, it could be a bumpy ride.



No wonder he's Mr Happy. He's worth more than a Mr Holbein.

On 3rd July 1984, "Portrait of a scholar" by Hans Holbein went for £1,450, 000. A piffling sum compared to the value of portraits of Mr Men by Roger Hargreaves.

Since 1973, Mr Happy and Co. have appeared on everything from yoghurt pots to a Japanese commercial for a gas company. That's not counting the TV series or the 60 million books sold to date.

An original painting can be put under lock and key, but how do you protect something like Mr Men, which has so many copies in circulation?

Well, to stop anyone getting any funny ideas, all the characters are registered trade marks.

After all, if you want to prevent somebody stealing your ideas it's an advantage if you can prove that you own them in the first place.

That's why, girls and boys, success stories like Mr Men begin with The Patent Office.

We offer impartial advice on all aspects of 'intellectual property'- trade marks, patents, and registered designs, to safeguard your work. So, don't be Mr Silly, write or Freephone for more information.

To: Ted Blake. Please send me your free information pack. The Patent Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent, NP9 1RH. Tel 0800 318654.

Name **Title** **Address**

Postcode **Telephone** PAT TMS1

The Patent Office

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